

16th June 1952, over 3,300 messages were received out of which about 800 were used in AIR's news bulletins.

JUTE PRICES

*1226. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made to the Government of India to fix up the minimum price of jute every year on the line of sugarcane; and

(b) if so, what are the main points of argument in the said representation; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) to (c). As a result of fall in prices, Government have received several representations suggesting the fixation of minimum prices for raw jute. It is argued that fall of raw jute prices may adversely affect the growing of jute. In this connection, it is necessary to bear in mind the fact that the price of raw jute very much depends on the extent of demand for jute goods in the foreign markets. As I indicated in my speech in connection with the Demands for Grants for my Ministry, Government is watching the position and will take such steps as may be called for in the circumstances.

PRICE OF COAL

*1227. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the difference in prices of coal per ton at Patna, Motihari, Chupra, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga; and

(b) the Railway freight per ton of coal from coal pit to the above mentioned stations?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as soon as possible.

IRON AND STEEL PRICES

*1228. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the difference in prices (per ton) of Iron and Steel between Patna, Motihari, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur and Savan (in Soran district);

(b) whether Iron and Steel is dispatched direct to the above destinations by the producers; and

(c) the Railway freight per ton to the above mentioned stations from production centres?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 18.]

(b) Yes, provided that the quantity involved on each occasion is not less than a wagon-load (20 tons).

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 19.]

COTTON (EXPORT AND IMPORT)

*1229. **Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of cotton exported during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 and the countries to which it was exported giving price per maund;

(b) the amount of cotton imported during the said period with names of the countries from which it was imported giving price per maund respectively;

(c) total production of cotton during the said period yearwise; and

(d) the amount of cotton required for home consumption during a year for mills, for hand-loom industry, and for other purposes respectively?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) to (d). Statements are laid on the table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexures Nos. 20, 21, 22 and 23.]

INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT, LONDON

*1230. **Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state the monthly salary in terms of rupees of the highest paid employee in the Indian Stores Department, London, with his nationality?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): Rs. 1,900 per month (excluding allowances); Indian.

MACHINE TOOL FACTORY, BANGALORE

*1231. **Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly salary of the General Manager or other highest officer in charge of the Machine Tool Factory, Bangalore; and

(b) whether persons of non-Indian nationality have been employed in the said Factory?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The monthly salary of the General Manager is Rs. 3,000.

(b) Yes.

HIDES AND LEATHER GOODS

*1232. **Shri Kajrolkar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of hides exported from India during the last three years and the countries to which they were exported;

(b) the total amount of foreign exchange earned in the transaction;

(c) the total quantity and the description of finished leather goods imported into India during the last three years, and the foreign exchange paid by India in the transaction;

(d) whether Government have made any efforts to develop the manufacture in India of the finished leather goods which are now imported, and, if so, what those efforts are; and

(e) whether there are factories in India which manufacture such goods?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a)—

	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
	(tons.)	(tons.)	(tons.)
Hides (Raw)	783	1973	1249
Hides (Tanned)	15735	17546	16750
Total :	16518	19519	17999

Exports were made mainly to U.S.A., U.K. and Japan.

(in lakhs of rupee)

1949-50	874
1950-51	1271
1951-52	1423

(c) Imports are mainly of industrial leather goods. A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 24.]

(d) Government gives interested parties every assistance in obtaining machinery and raw materials and in the trial of their products.

(e) Yes, Sir.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN BIHAR

*1233. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to refer to the reply to my starred

question No. 641 asked on the 9th June, 1952 and state the number, sites and description of the community projects selected for Bihar?

(b) Have these sites been selected out of a list submitted by the State Government or were these projects the only ones recommended by the Government of Bihar?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) Four projects and one development block have been allotted to Bihar as follows:

1. Pusa-Samastipur-Begusarai area.
2. Dehri-Bhabua-Mohania area.
3. Ormanjhi-Ranchi-Mandar area.
4. Jehanabad-Ekanga-sarai-Bihar-Barbigha area.
5. Santhal Parganas (Raneshwar Block)—One Development Block.

(b) The plots were selected out of a list of 11 project areas submitted by the State Government.

GRANT-IN-AID FOR KHADI

*1234. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 643 asked on the 9th June, 1952 and state the Khadi producing centres to which the grant in aid for promotion of Khadi has been given?

(b) Has Khadi as handspun and handwoven cloth received or is likely to receive any preferential treatment at the hands of the Central Government as distinct from other handwoven cloth beyond the grant of the above mentioned subsidy?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A lump grant of Rs. 2,00,000 was given to the All India Spinners' Association during the year 1951-52 for distribution as grants-in-aid to deserving khadi producing centres affiliated to them. The A.I.S.R. have not yet disbursed the amount in full.

(b) Various proposals for the encouragement of khadi are under examination.

SALE OF HOUSES TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*1235. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rehabilitation Ministry has been selling houses to the displaced persons (i) on an outright