

placed on the Table of the House, and if the hon. Member, thereafter, puts me questions, I shall be able to give additional information.

**Shri G. B. Khedkar:** May I know whether these rates will be uniform labour rates or different according to categories of labour, such as wheat and rice, etc.?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** It depends upon the circumstances and the various States have to go into the details of these matters and fix a minimum wage rates.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** May I know why not the Central Government of India enforce the Minimum Wages Act in the whole of India?

**Mr. Speaker:** He need not reply to that question.

### पटसन (निर्यात)

\*२००. श्री बाल्मीकी : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) उन देशों के नाम जिन्हें मई १९५१ से मई १९५२ तक के समय में पटसन भेजा गया,

(ख) भारत के बाहर पटसन के सामान की मांग कैसी है, और

(ग) उक्त माँग को देखते हुये पटसन के सामान की किस्म में सुधार करने के लिये क्या प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं ?

### JUTE (EXPORT)

[\*200. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the names of countries to which jute was exported during the period May, 1951 to May, 1952;

(b) the demand for jute goods outside India; and

(c) what efforts are being made to improve the quality of jute goods in view of this demand?]

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

(a) No raw jute was permitted for export.

(b) The demand for jute goods outside India varies from year to year. It depends on several factors, such as, the size of crops in the main grain producing countries, the movement of foodgrains in the world, the extent of bulk packing, availability of other packing materials and the price of such materials in comparison with the price of jute bags. Subject to these, the demand for jute goods outside India would be about 1,300,000 tons to 1,500,000 tons.

(c) The quality of Indian jute goods has been generally accepted as good. Continuous research on the subject is being carried on in the laboratories of the Indian Jute Mills Association.

**श्री बाल्मीकी :** क्या यह सच है कि अमरीका ने भारतीय जूट के लिये आर्डर देना बन्द कर दिया है, और अगर हाँ तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Is it a fact that America has stopped placing orders for Indian jute and if so, what are the reasons therefor?]

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** There has undoubtedly been a slowing down of demand from the United States as well as from other parts of the world, partly due to stock piling. As I said in reply to another question in this House one section of purchasers in the U.S.A. namely, the United States Army Corps had placed orders for hessian and bags with people in Europe, because the price differential was operating against us on account of our export duty. That defect has now been remedied and it is understood that orders from such sources will ultimately come to India.

**Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** May I know whether there is any demand for jute goods from the U.S.S.R. and China?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** So far as any trade on a Government to Government basis with U.S.S.R. is concerned, it has been on the basis of barter. For whatever we wanted, we gave something in return and sometimes that happened to be in jute goods. I have no information with regard to the demand from China.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether, if there is a demand, we are prepared to supply to China.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. That would be hypothetical.