

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The value of mica and shellac exported from India in 1951-52 was Rs. 1321 lakhs and Rs. 1130 lakhs, respectively.

(b) The principal importers of mica are U.K., U.S.A., France, Western Germany, Italy, Japan and Australia; and of shellac, U.S.A., U.K., U.S.S.R., Western Germany, France, Italy, Canada, Brazil, Argentina and Australia. Mica is mainly used by electrical industries and shellac is used in the production of Gramophone records, electrical insulating material, varnishes and adhesives, sealing wax, grinding wheels etc.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: What is the value of the imports of articles made out of these raw materials?

Shri Karmarkar: The hon. Member may put a separate question for that.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Are any of these articles imported from abroad made here in our country?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice. Gramophone records are made here.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it a fact that the export of shellac and also of mica is progressively going down, and that foreign countries are making arrangements for synthetic products to replace them?

Shri Karmarkar: Our figures show, Sir, that the exports are in fact progressively going up. For instance in 1949/50, so far as Mica is concerned, it was about Rs. 7 lakhs, and now it is Rs. 13.20 lakhs; and in shellac also, our exports were about Rs. 30 lakhs and now they are about Rs. 91 lakhs.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it due, Sir, to the price going up or is it due to larger quantities being exported?

Shri Karmarkar: It is due to both the quantity and the price going up.

Shri Punnose: May I know the States which chiefly produce these articles, mica and shellac?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

INDIAN CULTURAL DELEGATION TO CHINA

*1326. Shri K. G. Deshmukh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the expenses incurred by the Government of India on Indian Cultural Delegation to China in May, 1952?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The details of expenditure incurred on behalf of the delegation by the Embassy of India, Peking, and the Indian Consulate General, Shanghai, and some other bills have not yet been received. It is not possible, therefore, to give the exact amount. However the total expenses are expected to be well within Rs. 1½ lakhs.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know what is the response we got in proportion to the expenditure incurred?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If I may say so, Sir, it is a very extraordinary question but I may say this, that they were treated with the utmost cordiality and friendship.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether this delegation is reported to have submitted any report to the Government of India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: All delegations which go there are supposed to submit some kind of report. But usually these reports are not published.

Shri Punnose: Has it come to the notice of the Government that a certain section of the Foreign Press has attributed views to the leader of the delegation contrary to those expressed in this country by her?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know to which particular thing the hon. Member refers. But perhaps I may draw the attention of the House to the fact that a certain contradiction was made by the leader of the delegation to certain statements made in the Press in regard to that matter.

PRICE OF JUTE

*1327. Shri M. Islamuddin: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the price of jute per maund before the control was lifted in March, 1951;

(b) the price immediately after the control was lifted; and

(c) the price at present?

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

(a) Rs. 35 per maund on the basis of bottom variety for delivery free at mills in Calcutta.

(b) Rs. 65 per maund on 12th March 1951.

(c) Rs. 27 per maund was the quotation for Assam bottoms on 26th June 1952.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know the reasons for the decrease in price?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The drop in the world demand for manufactured goods, and perhaps the glut of the raw materials in the market.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know whether the decrease in price of jute has affected the growers, and if so, to what extent?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is a fact that a decrease in price does affect the producer, and we have received complaints from producers and such complaints have been voiced on the floor of this House. But I am unable to say to what extent it has affected the growers, exactly.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know whether the present price leaves any margin of profit to the jute growers?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid we have made no examination of that question.

Shri A. C. Guha: Will the hon. the Minister be able to give us any idea as to how the new rates fixed by the Pakistan Government for bottom Jat jute will compare with the present price fixture, and whether it will be economical for the Indian Jute Mills to have Pakistan Jute? What has happened to Pakistan jute, has there been any reduction in duty?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is far too early for us to be able to say how it will affect our position.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that Pakistan Government has put up something like a discriminatory rate for Indian importers as compared with the foreign importers?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no information.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know whether large-scale smuggling of jute from Pakistan is responsible for the reduction of prices in India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I take that information from the hon. Member.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Are Government aware of the fact that there are large stocks of jute and have they any plan to give any Price support to those whom they induce to grow more jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: At the moment, Government is not contemplating any rebate for jute?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know the difference between the price of jute exported from India, and the internal price of jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Raw jute is not exported from India, and so there could be no comparison.

TRAINING CENTRES (COMMUNITY PROJECTS)

*1328. **Shri Madiah Gowda:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) when and where the training centre for the training of executive officers of the Community Development Project will be opened; and

(b) whether any scheme of training has been drawn up and the personnel appointed?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) A four weeks orientation and training course for Project Executive Officers is being arranged at Nilokheri, from the 21st July 1952.

(b) A programme has been framed and personnel is being chosen.

Shri Madiah Gowda: May I know how the personnel who are going to give training in these centres are chosen?

Shri Nanda: The personnel is chosen mostly from the officers of the Government.

Shri Madiah Gowda: May I know whether the trainees selected will be persons in State services, or whether fresh men will be selected for this training?

Shri Nanda: Both, Sir.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I know the names of the training centres which will commence work in the month of July, apart from Nilokheri?

Shri Nanda: Nilokheri is the only centre which we have in view.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether any special qualifications have been laid down for choosing these officers?

Shri Nanda: Some qualifications have been laid down.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What are they?

Shri Nanda: In respect of the Project Officer, those qualifications have been given in the draft outline of the Community Projects Administration.

Shri Nanda: May I know whether any political considerations enter into the selection of these trainees?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We shall go to the next question.