

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix V, annexure No. 8.]

- (b) 1951 ... 6.8 per cent.
1952 ... 6.6 per cent.
(January-June)

INDIAN ENCLAVES IN EAST BENGAL

***855. Shri A. C. Guba:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are some enclaves of Indian territory surrounded by East Bengal territories;

(b) what is their number, area and population; and

(c) how law and order, communications, supplies etc., are being maintained?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chauda):

(a) and (b). There are 130 small Cooch-Bihar enclaves surrounded by East Bengal territory. Their total area is 20,957 acres and they have a total population of 12,602. Similarly, there are 93 East Bengal enclaves surrounded by West Bengal (Cooch-Bihar) territory. Their area is 12,152 acres and their population is approximately 11,060

(c) The administration of these enclaves on either side has been very difficult. The Chief Secretaries of West Bengal and East Bengal have considered some of these difficulties and were of opinion that in the interests of administrative convenience, the question of the exchange of these enclaves should be examined. Meanwhile, it was agreed that certain steps should be taken to facilitate the movement of officers and supplies.

The Government of West Bengal have been asked to inform us of the latest position.

COAL TO PAKISTAN

***856. Shri A. C. Guba:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether there was any proposal from Pakistan to get coal from India and if so, what is the present position?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): Yes. Coal was included as an item for export from India, in the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement of February 1951, which expired on the 7th August, 1952. Coal has been

left out of the current Trade Agreement between India and Pakistan, but on being approached by Pakistan, the Government of India have consented outside the agreement to sell coal to Pakistan upto 90,000 tons a month, till the end of December 1952, when the position will be reviewed.

LEATHER INDUSTRY

***858. Dr. Jaiav-vir:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of hides and skins exported from India to Pakistan during the last five years;

(b) the quantity of raw leather exported from India to other foreign countries during the last five years;

(c) the effect of such export of raw leather, hides and skins on the leather industry of India; and

(d) the measures, if any, which the Government of India have adopted to improve the leather industry in India?

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

(a) On the assumption that the Member refers to tanned hides and skins a statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix V, annexure No. 9.]

(b) The Member presumably refers to raw hides and skins. If so, a statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 9.]

(c) Since export of raw hide and skin is allowed only in respect of items where there is exportable surplus it is not likely to have any adverse effect on Indian leather industry.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 9.]

MINING ENGINEERS IN HIRAKUD

***859. Dr. Nataraj Pandey:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether sixteen mining engineers, who were serving in a Government of India mining concern are now being posted in Hirakud; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the reason for employing such a large number of mining engineers in Hirakud?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). Sixteen engineers who were sent to