

HINDUSTAN SHIPYARD LIMITED

*864. **Shri K. C. Sodha:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the total number of experts engaged by the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. and how many of them are Indians?

(b) What is the present arrangement for the training abroad of Indian personnel?

(c) Does the Company prepare any annual report of its working and submit it to Government?

(d) If so, when was the last report received?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Out of a total of 36 technical officers, 33 are Indians.

(b) Out of the 33 Indian officers, 16 have already received training abroad. Under our agreement with a reputed French firm of shipbuilders, the latter will train Indian officers whom we may recommend for such training in their own shipyards in France.

(c) The Company is required to issue an annual balance-sheet and Directors' Report under the Indian Companies Act. Government being the major shareholder in the Company, a copy of such Report will necessarily come before Government.

(d) The Company has not yet completed the first year of its existence and the question of an annual report has not so far arisen.

SALT BITTERNS

*865. **Shri Balwant Saha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a large quantity of Salt Bitterns is lying waste on the site of Sambhar Lake?

(b) What are the possible products obtainable from it?

(c) If useful chemicals can be extracted out of it, why was it not pursued up till now?

(d) Does the property belong to the Government of Rajasthan or the Central Government?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes.

(b) Sodium Chloride, Sodium sulphate, Sodium carbonate, and Sodium bicarbonate.

(c) The question of working out suitable methods for the recovery of the by-products is under active consideration.

(d) The property belongs to the Government of Rajasthan.

PRICES OF GOODS IN MANIPUR

*866. **Shri L. J. Slogh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the prices of the popular counts of yarns exceed the stamped retail price by about 25 per cent. at Imphal and those of all industrial goods which have to be imported to Imphal exceed the average price obtaining in other parts of India by about the same percentage; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to consider the desirability of reducing the freight charges of such goods imported to Manipur?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). In regard to cotton yarn the answer is in the negative and the authorities there have reported that the yarn is being sold in that area below controlled price at present. Regarding other industrial goods it is true that transport charges and the difficulties of movement by the railcum-road route do tend to make them more expensive in Imphal than in other areas and Government are doing everything possible to improve transport facilities.

TRAINING IN COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

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

(a) whether Government have under contemplation any scheme or schemes under which persons desirous of being trained in cottage industries may get that training;

(b) if so, which are the industries;

(c) whether such training centres exist at present; and

(d) if so, at what places and which are the industries in which training is imparted?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karshankar): (a) No, Sr. Not at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Certain training centres are run by the Ministry of Rehabilitation and the Ministry of Labour, and a statement giving details of these

institutions is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 10.]

HOUSES BUILT FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

*869. **Shri N. L. Joshi:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state how many new houses for displaced persons have been constructed so far and at what cost?

(b) How much of the cost of buildings has been recovered so far from the displaced persons?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given by me to parts (a) and (b) of Unstarred Question No. 94 by Shri Vidyalankar on the 13th November, 1952.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

SOAP FACTORIES

*870. **Shri Kelappan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foreign soap concerns manufacturing soap in India;

(b) the total installed capacity of the soap factories in India and also the actual production during 1949, 1950 and 1951 giving separate figures for Indian and foreign concerns;

(c) whether the Palmolive Soap Company has recently purchased a factory in Baroda; and

(d) whether the Lever Brothers are starting a new factory at Podur in Trichinopoly?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). Presumably the hon. Member desires to know the names of the Indian Soap firms which are known to have foreign investment. On this basis a statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 11.]

(c) Government have no information.

(d) Government have no information.

DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY

*871. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of persons, country-wise who are enjoying diplomatic immunity in India?

(b) How many of them, again country-wise, are not directly associated with foreign embassies but are here on special invitation by the Government for specific purposes?

(c) Has there been any instance of misuse of diplomatic immunity during 1952?

(d) If so, what action has been taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Asit K. Chanda):

(a) A statement containing the required information has been placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 12.] The families of the persons mentioned in the statement are also entitled to immunity, but information regarding their number is not available.

(b) The question does not arise, as diplomatic immunity is enjoyed only by diplomatic envoys, their families and suites, although certain other persons, as for example, officials of the United Nations, may also be accorded a certain degree of immunity from legal process.

(c) and (d). There has been no instance which can be described as that of misuse of diplomatic immunity; there have, however, been cases of breach of law, as for example, violations of traffic rules by diplomats, and appropriate representations have been made in such cases through diplomatic channels.

HEDGE TRADING IN COTTON

*872. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to allow hedge trading in cotton;

(b) if so, from when hedge trading has been permitted;

(c) whether any conditions are going to be attached;

(d) if so, what are those conditions; and

(e) what is the present position with regard to the existing stock, demand and supply?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). The Government have already announced that hedge trading will be permitted from the middle of December 1952.