

RELIEF GIFTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

***36. Shri N. P. Sinha:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has received relief gifts in cash or kind from the foreign countries in the year 1951-52; and

(b) if so, what and from which countries?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when available.

FACTORIES FOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINERY

***37. Shri N. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the Central Board of Irrigation has made any suggestion for opening of factories in India for manufacturing hydro-electric machinery?

(b) If so, has any step been taken in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a). Yes, Sir, in 1948.

(b) Even before the suggestion of Central Board of Irrigation was received, Government were exploring the possibility of setting up a factory for the manufacture of heavy electrical plant and equipment. The scheme is not being pursued now for financial reasons.

LOANS TO TRAINED DISPLACED PERSONS

***38. Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state as to how many of the displaced persons trained under the Technical and Vocational training Scheme upto October, 1952 have been granted small loans after training?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The information is not available.

EXPORT OF PLANTAINS TO PAKISTAN

***39. Shri Pataskar:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state how many wagons of plantains are exported annually to Pakistan from India?

(b) What are the rates of import duty charged on plantains and other fruits from India, by the Government of Pakistan?

(c) What are the rates of import duty charged by the Government of India on fruits dry and others exported by Pakistan to India?

(d) Is it a fact that import duties charged by the Government of Pakistan on fruits from India is far higher than the import duties charged by the Government of India on fruits dry and others from Pakistan?

(e) Has the high rate of import duty charged by the Government of Pakistan adversely affected the trade in plantains and other fruits with Pakistan?

(f) Are the Government of India considering the question of imposing correspondingly high import duties on fruits dry and others from Pakistan?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d). A statement giving the information required is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 4]

(e) As there are import control restrictions on fruits going to Pakistan it is not easy to assess the effect of Pakistan's import duty on our exports of fruits.

(f) India is already charging import duty on dry fruits and certain categories of fresh fruits imported from Pakistan. The hon. Member will appreciate that it is not possible for me to give any indication one way or the other of possible changes, if any, in fiscal duties.

RECRUITMENT OF GURKHAS

***40. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state what steps, if any, have been taken for the termination of all facilities to the Government of Great Britain for the recruitment on Indian territory of Gurkha soldiers into the British Army?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): In August 1952, the Governments of the United Kingdom and Nepal were informed that the Government of India wished to terminate as early as possible, the facilities given as a temporary measure to the Government of the United Kingdom for the recruitment of Gurkha troops in India. The U.K. Government have informed us of their willingness to meet our wishes on this subject. The matter is now under discussion with the Governments concerned.