

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). Since the introduction of the passport system, there has been no influx of migrants from East Bengal. Facilities for migration however continue after due checks. Holders of passports also can get visas without much difficulty. The Minority Ministers of the Governments of India and Pakistan have recently toured certain areas of East Pakistan.

In a joint communique issued by the two minority Ministers after their meeting at Dacca on the 24th October, they agreed that the operation of passport-cum-visa system should not be interpreted or enforced in such a way as to interfere with the movement of migrants according to the terms of the Prime Ministers' Agreement of April 1950, and that repatriation certificates should be issued liberally to intending migrants. They also agreed to recommend to their respective Governments an early meeting of officials of both the countries to ensure uniformity in the application of the passport system.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

***55. Shri Madiah Gowda:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) when the Cottage Industries Board was constituted and who the members are;

(b) how many times they met in the year 1951-52; and

(c) whether there is any report of the Board to be placed on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Board was constituted in August, 1948. A statement showing the names of the members of the Board is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 5].

(b) Once.

(c) A record of the Board's proceedings at its last meeting is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 5].

CENTRAL SILK BOARD

***56. Shri Madiah Gowda:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount at the credit of the Central Silk Board; and

(b) whether the Silk Board has prepared any programme of work and budget for the current year?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The Board has a grant-in-aid of

Rs. 4½ lakhs from Government for the year 1952-53 plus a carry over of Rs. 21,700 from earlier grants.

(b) Yes.

PRODUCTS OF HAND LOOMS AND TEXTILE MILLS

***57. Shri Achuthan:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what is the comparative approximate percentage of the disposal of the products (including internal sales and exports) of the hand-loom and textile mills industry in the last two quarters during this financial year?

(b) Has any special step been taken to encourage and protect hand-loom industry in India and if so, what are they?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The production of mill-made cloth during April to September, 1952, this year has been 2365 million yards and the production of hand-loom cloth for the same period is estimated to be about 510 million yards.

Exports of mill-made cloth and hand-loom cloth during the same period have been 344 million yards and 23.5 million yards respectively or about 14 per cent. and 5 per cent. of the production.

Information regarding internal sales both for mill made and hand-loom cloth is not available as the internal distribution of cloth is the concern of the State Government.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 6].

HIRAKUD PROJECT

***58. Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of the construction work in the Hirakud project;

(b) the number of contractors engaged in such work;

(c) the average volume of work and the cost thereof allotted to each contractor;

(d) the personnel of the supervising staff and their qualifications and conditions of employment; and

(e) whether they are part of the permanent C.P.W.D.?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) A statement giving the progress of the Project upto the end of October, 1952

is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 7]

(b) and (c). The information required is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

(d) and (e). A statement giving the required information in respect of Gazetted Staff is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No. 8].

An indication has been given in the statement in regard to Officers on deputation from the C.P.W.D. Information in respect of non-gazetted staff is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

TIN PLATE

*59. Shri K. K. Basu: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state on what basis is tin plate distributed amongst

- (i) Steel processing industry;
- (ii) Cottage industry; and
- (iii) Kerosene Packers?

(b) On what basis is the production capacity of tin containers calculated by the State and Central Governments?

(c) Is production capacity of machines the only consideration or other facts are also taken into account and if so, what are these?

(d) Does the recommendation of State Governments affect the quota allotments?

(e) Is it a fact that certain factories are running intermittently due to varying and insufficient quotas, as a result of which labour is unemployed now and then?

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

(a) In view of the shortage of tinplate, only factories registered under the Factories Act on or before the 20th March 1950 and which were processing tinplate with the aid of power on or before that date are allotted tinplate on the basis of their assessed capacity, importance and load of orders from consumers. Distribution amongst kerosene packers is effected on the basis of requirements for moving kerosene to the several distribution points in the country.

(b) and (c). Production capacity is assessed on the basis of a single eight-hour shift capacity taking into

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account condition of machinery, availability of power, labour employed, working conditions and past performance. Tinplate allotments are made directly by the Centre and not through the States.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Allocation is so made that every factory gets a certain minimum percentage of its capacity and that no factory is forced to close down for want of tinplate. It is, however, possible that there is at times some disengagement of labour, as, in existing conditions, it is not possible to guarantee a steady supply of tinplate to all factories.

CARDAMOM AND PEPPER

1. Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total import duties levied on cardamom and pepper; and

(b) the total amount of cardamom and pepper exported from India during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Standard rate of import duty on cardamom and pepper is 56. 7/10 per cent. ad valorem. For imports from a British Colony a preferential rate of 47. 1/4 per cent. ad valorem is charged. Imports from Burma are charged at a further reduced rate of 10 1/2 per cent. ad valorem. The figures in regard to this total amount of duty realised on these two commodities during 1950-51 and 1951-52 is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House at a later date.

(b) Figures of exports are given below:

(Figures given in cwts.)

S. No.	Name of article	Exports during 1950-51	1951-52
(1)	Cardamom	12,443	13,354
(2)	Pepper	3,07,888	2,97,460

LICENCES FOR IMPORT OF BOTTLES

2. Dr. Amis: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import licences have been issued for the import of special types of bottles for July-December 1952 period;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the quantity and value of import licences issued and