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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Tuesday, 9th December, 1952.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

AUTO LAMPS

*1020. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what was the total production in our country of auto lamps during the year 1952?

(b) What quantity of auto lamps had to be imported during the same period?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) 48,241 nos. from January—September, 1952.

(b) 6,542,765 nos. during the period January—August 1952. Figures for September are not yet available.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know where these factories have been set up for the manufacture of auto bulbs?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There is now one factory, Pradeep Lamp Works working at Calcutta. There are proposals for setting up five factories, three in Bombay and two in Delhi.

Sardar Hukam Singh: From what countries were these bulbs being imported?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Largely from U.K. and U.S.A.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it known to the Government that the price of the bulbs from other countries like Czechoslovakia is much lower than in the case of U.K. and U. S. A.?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is possible. I have no information.

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Sardar Hukam Singh: Was this item placed under OGL or was it under license all the time?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The licensing policy has been undergoing various changes. During January—June 1951, soft currency licenses were issued to established importers on a quota basis. When there was acute shortage all over the country and auto bulbs were not available, on 7th May, 1951, it was decided to grant licenses freely for soft currency shipments up till 31st December 1951. In July—December 1951 the policy was pursued. In January—June 1952, we had a cut in the quota by 25 per cent. in the half year's imports. In July—December, because of the large stocks again, no licenses were issued.

Actually the hon. member will find that whatever came from the dollar area came prior to the January—June licensing period, and the rest was from the soft currency areas, and people could have imported from any country they liked.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is the Government alive to the difficulties experienced by these importers? When there was acute shortage in the country the import was made free, and there were such large stocks in the ports, that nobody would care to take them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I quite recognise that these frequent changes in our import policy are causing a lot of discomfort, and we are trying to remedy the situation.

LISTENING SCHOOLS

*1021. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether there was any increase in the number of listening schools registered during 1952 as compared to the number registered in 1951?

(b) Have educational broadcasts been extended to all States of the Union by now?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, Sir; 552 more schools are reported to have installed receivers during the period between 1st January 1952 and 30th September 1952, bringing the total to 2,135 as against 1,583 on 31st December 1951.

(b) Educational broadcasts are being given from the Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Tiruchi Vijayawada, Lucknow, Allahabad, Patna and Trivandrum stations of All India Radio. It is proposed to provide similar programmes from other Stations as and when the existing low power transmitters are replaced by high power ones and more receiver sets are installed in the schools.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know the number of listening schools in Madras State?

Dr. Keskar: 741.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know whether the grants to these schools are made on a Statewise policy?

Dr. Keskar: The installation of receivers is the responsibility of the State Governments and not of the Central Government.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the non-keeping of the receivers by the States is due simply to financial difficulties, or have they any other objections for putting up these?

Dr. Keskar: It is mainly financial. But I might inform my hon. friend that we are impressing on the State Governments the utility and usefulness of putting up more and more receivers in their schools, and we are getting good response from them.

Sardar Hukam Singh: The hon. Minister has stated that more strong transmitters are also to be put up. How long would it take the All India Radio to replace its transmitters with stronger ones?

Dr. Keskar: The replacement of the low power transmitters by higher power transmitters is the main item in the five year development programme of the All India Radio.

Shri Achuthan: What is the average cost of installing a receiver?

Dr. Keskar: That will depend on the type of receiver that the schools install.

TEACHERS, DOCTORS AND CONTRACTORS
FOR MALAYA

*1022. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (a)** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the

Government of Malaya has approached the Government of India for recruiting some teachers, doctors and contractors for service in Malaya?

(b) If so, have these personnel been recruited?

(c) If the reply to part (b) above be in the affirmative, how many persons have so far been sent to Malaya?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes, for some teachers only.

(b) Not yet. The Government of India have informed the Malayan Government that they may advertise in leading newspapers in India and call for applications. The Malayan Government propose to send a Senior Officer of the Malayan Education Department to interview the candidates and select them. It has been stipulated that a representative of the Education Ministry of the Government of India should also, be included in the interview Board.

(c) Does not arise.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the number of teachers, which the Government of Malaya had asked the Government of India to recruit, or for whom they wanted facilities to recruit from India?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: 39 is their present requirement.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know for what language these teachers are wanted?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The instruction is given in English, but the teachers are required for science, history, geography and English.

Shri Veeraswamy: What are the respective scales of pay and conditions of service for the teachers and doctors we send to Malaya?

Shri Anil K. Chanda. It will be on a contract basis for three to five years. The basic salary in Malayan dollars is 660-30-780 p.m., and cost of living allowance at standard current rates would bring it up to \$790-25-890 for single men, and to \$950, 990, 1030, 1055, 1080 for married men, and to \$950, 990, 1030, 1067.5, 1105 for married men or widowers.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether the Government of India will take full responsibility for the security of these persons while they stay in Malaya?