

(c) if no relief is to be given, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). It is true there was an increase in the price of furnace oil from 19th January 1952; but it would not be correct to say that because of this the glass industry units using furnace oil were not able to compete with other units of this industry using coal.

With effect from 1st December, 1952, the price of furnace oil has been reduced by Rs. 43 to Rs. 46 per ton.

(c) Does not arise.

FURNACE OIL

***1076. Dr. Amin:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Caltex (India) Ltd. are in a position to meet our country's full requirements of furnace oil from their Bahrain Refinery; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, why furnace oil is allowed to be imported from distant sources?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) No, Sir, not to my knowledge.

(b) Does not arise.

CEMENT FACTORY AT NEEMUCH

***1077. Shri U. M. Trivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what steps the Central Government have taken for the establishment of a Cement Factory at Neemuch?

(b) What help the Central Government are prepared to render for the establishment of such a factory at Neemuch?

(c) What data Government have made available for prospective industrialists and where such data is available?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). There was a proposal to start a cement factory at Neemuch in 1949. As the cement production capacity available for this area was more than sufficient, an additional cement factory in this area was not considered necessary. The position still remains the same.

(c) Requests for data are compiled with to the extent possible.

PASSPORTS TO PAKISTAN

***1078. Shri N. L. Joshi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of passports issued by the Indian Government to persons visiting East and West Pakistan after the introduction of the passport system; and

(b) the total number of Pakistan residents who visited this country during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) 5,500 till the 31st October, 1952.

(b) The Government of India granted relaxations to border residents till the 31st October 1952, and to certain transport workers till the 31st December 1952. It is not possible to say how many Pakistan nationals took advantage of this. Apart from them, 2,712 visas for India were granted till the 31st October 1952, but it cannot be said how many of them actually visited India.

LAND TO M.Ps. FOR BUILDING PURPOSES

***1079. Shri N. L. Joshi:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state whether there is or was any proposal for consideration before Government to allot vacant sites of land for building purposes to the M.Ps. at New Delhi?

(b) If so, what are the decisions of Government on the same?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

SALT MANUFACTURERS IN ORISSA

***1080. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the number of salt manufacturers in the State of Orissa;

(b) whether licences have been granted to manufacture salt; and

(c) whether any agreements have been entered into by the manufacturers with the Central Government?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) 35 licensed manufacturers and about 400 to 500 small scale unlicensed manufacturers.

(b) Yes, except in the case of small scale manufacturers, who work areas under 10 acres each and in whose case grant of licences is not necessary.

(c) Yes, but only with manufacturers who produce salt on Central Government lands.