

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

*284. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of money which will be spent by the Central Government in Community Projects;

(b) how much of this will be foreign capital; and

(c) in what form the foreign capital will come, whether in the form of cash or in the form of commodities and if in the form of commodities, what are those commodities and their relative value?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) About Rs. 31.34 crores on the Programme already undertaken.

(b) About Rs. 4.11 crores.

(c) The dollar expenditure will be in respect of the procurement of supplies, equipment, services, and other programme materials from abroad, and their transportation to India.

SCRAP IRON AND STEEL (EXPORT)

*285. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total quantity of iron and steel scraps exported to Japan during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52?

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

| | | |
|---------|-----|--------------|
| 1950-51 | ... | Nil. |
| 1951-52 | ... | 15,784 tons. |

RAW JUTE STOCKS

*286. **Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the stocks of raw jute held by the Jute Mills and stockists in India are now reported to be sufficient to meet the demands of jute industry in this country for this year and the next;

(b) what is the quantity of jute purchased by Indian importers through their agents in Pakistan and also the quantity actually imported into India, month by month, since the 1st of August, 1952; and

(c) what steps, if any, Government propose to take to safeguard the interest of jute growers in India so that the market prices of jute grown in

India may not be forced down below costs of production by the jute importers and stockists as well as industry importing more jute into the country than would be warranted by the actual demands of the industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Government have not received any such report.

(b) Government have no details of the quantity of Pakistan jute purchased by Indian importers. As regards mills, purchases made on their own account are reported to be as follows:—

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|----------------|
| August, 1952 | ... | 1,34,000 bales |
| September, 1952 | ... | 3,19,000 bales |

Following are the quantities of raw jute actually imported from Pakistan during the months of—

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----------------|
| August, 1952 | ... | 56,400 bales |
| September, 1952 | ... | 3,19,000 bales. |

(c) The price of raw jute is governed in the last analysis by the price at which jute goods are sold in the world markets. The real solution to the raw jute problems, therefore, lies in helping the Indian industry to recapture and extend its overseas markets and steps like liberalizing export control, reduction of export duty etc., have already been taken towards this end to stimulate demand for our jute goods. I may add for the hon. Member's information that the current quotations of raw jute prices in Calcutta are more or less on the level of those fixed during the period of price control.

SALE OF CALCIUM CARBONATE SLUDGE FROM SINDRI FACTORY

*287. **Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) what is the price per ton at which Calcium Carbonate Sludge obtained as a by-product in the Fertilisers and Chemicals Factory, Sindri, is proposed to be sold to the Associated Cement Company, Ltd., and how this price would compare with the actual costs at which Calcium Carbonate is obtained by cement manufacturers in this country; and

(b) whether the views of other cement manufacturers in India were obtained as to whether they were prepared to undertake to utilise the Sindri Calcium Carbonate Sludge and what prices they were prepared to offer for the same?