

## KHOSLA COMMITTEE'S REPORT

\*299. **Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khosla Committee submitted any report to the Government or the Planning Commission on the utilisation of the Krishna and Godavari waters;

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether it was referred to the Madras State Government for their views and if so, when; and

(d) whether the Madras State Government's views have been received, if so, when they were received and what they are?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) to (d). Attention of the hon. Member is drawn to Starred Question No. 169 answered on November 10, 1952. The report of the Khosla Committee was referred to the Madras Government in September. A conference with the Governments of Madras and Hyderabad is expected to be held during the latter part of November, 1952.

## CUT IN IMPORTS

\*300. **Shri Basappa:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of recent cuts in imports;

(b) whether this cut in imports tended towards the rise in the prices of some articles; and

(c) what are the materials in which this rise in prices is noticed most?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). The extent of cuts made in the Import Policy for July—December 1952 varies from item to item. In general, the import of only those items was restricted for which the available stocks, indigenous production and expected arrivals against outstanding import licences, were considered to be adequate in relation to estimated demand. There has been no general tendency towards a rise in the prices of the articles affected by these cuts. In some cases, where formerly owing to conditions of overstocking the articles were selling below cost, there has been some increase in the price. A purely speculative price rise in some consumer goods has also come to notice.

## MAHANADI CANAL SYSTEM

\*301. **Pandit Lingaraj Misra:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been undertaken in the Cuttack and Puri Districts of Orissa State for construction of a canal system for the proper utilization of the perennial flow of water in the Mahanadi as a result of the Hirakud Dam Project;

(b) how far has the survey so far progressed;

(c) which of the thanas in the two districts and the acreage of land proposed to be irrigated by these new canal systems; and

(d) what is the estimated cost of the project?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About one-third of the survey work has been completed.

(c) The names of the thanas in the two districts that would be benefited by irrigation can be stated only after the contour survey and the detailed investigations are completed. The additional area that would be irrigated annually in both these districts is 9.45 lakh acres approximately.

(d) Rs. 11 lakhs.

## COIR PRODUCTS

\*302. **Shri Achuthan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation has been conducted for entering into Trade Agreements with any countries for the export of coir products; and

(b) how much stock (coir products) is lying idle due to the lack of foreign purchasers?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Opportunities are taken from time to time to introduce coir products as an item of export from India in our Trade Agreements with foreign countries. This item appears in our Trade Arrangements with the following countries:

- (1) Italy.
- (2) Finland.
- (3) Norway.
- (4) Austria.
- (5) Federal Republic of Germany.
- (6) Burma.