

(b) the number of persons who have returned to Pakistan during the same period?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) 9,95,958.

(b) 9,18,407.

#### IRON PIPE FITTINGS (LICENCE)

\*1548. { **Shri Gidwan:**  
**Shri V. P. Nayar:**  
**Shri Sarangadhar Das:**  
**Shri R. N. Singh:**

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the second half year of 1954, a quota of 12½ per cent. for imports of malleable pipe fittings was fixed and that this was notified on the 16th June, 1954;

(b) whether it is a fact that a meeting of both the indigenous producers and importers was summoned for the 22nd July, 1954;

(c) whether it is a fact that a total ban on the imports of these commodities was announced at this meeting; and

(d) if so, whether it is also a fact that a licence was issued to a particular firm on the 13th July, 1954, whereas all other applications were refused on the ground of total ban?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. No such announcements are made at such meetings.

(d) An import licence was issued to a firm on 13th July, 1954 for import against important Government and Quasi-Government Orders. No application was refused on the ground of a total ban.

#### WATER SUPPLY TO ROURKELA STEEL PLANT

\*1549. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to

refer to the reply given to starred question No. 171 on the 18th November, 1954 in regard to the Hydrographic Survey of the potentialities for water supply from the River Brahmani to the projected steel plant at Rourkela and state:

(a) whether any decision has been arrived at by Government; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision taken?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) The Technical Consultants of the Hindustan Steel, Limited, have since examined the proposals made by the Chief Engineer, Hirakud Dam Project, in his report. They have made certain counter-proposals which suggest a compromise on grounds of economy between the "non re-circulation" and the "re-circulation" methods of water supply to the Plant. The Consultants' suggestions, have, at their instance, been referred to the Chief Engineer, Hirakud Dam Project for his comments.

(b) Does not arise.

#### HIDES AND SKINS

\*1550. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply to unstarred question No. 347 on the 7th April, 1954 and state whether the export of raw hides and skins is still banned?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** Yes, Sir. Export of raw cow and buffalo hides is still banned.

#### CANADA

\*1551. **Shri L. Jogeswar Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian student at the University of British Columbia was refused admittance to St. Helem Hotel in Vancouver;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that his four white companions were also refused service at this hotel; and

(d) if so, the steps the Indian High Commissioner in Canada has taken in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) to (d). The Government of India have asked their High Commissioner in Canada to make necessary enquiries in the matter. A statement will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as these enquiries are completed.

#### INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

**\*1552. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the plight of Indians in South Africa is likely to worsen in view of the new policy statement by her new Prime Minister?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** The new Prime Minister of South Africa, Mr. Strijdom has said in a recent speech that it might be necessary to accelerate and expand apartheid not only in South Africa but beyond its borders. This statement, coupled with Mr. Strijdom's avowed extremist views on racial problems has given rise to fears that race relations in South Africa would deteriorate. However, the new Prime Minister has also stated in a recent broadcast that the non-European population in South Africa would be treated fairly.

In the present situation it is not possible to predict the likely course of events in South Africa or forecast whether the plight of persons of Indian origin in South Africa would be better or worse.

#### UNEMPLOYMENT IN WEST BENGAL

**\*1553. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the results of the survey of the five zones in West Bengal undertaken by the West Bengal Statistical Bureau have been tabulated and submitted to Government; and

(b) if so, the results of the survey especially with regard to the incidence of unemployment?

**The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra):** (a) and (b). Information is being obtained from the West Bengal Government and will be supplied when received.

#### SOUTH AFRICA

**\*1554. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the South African Government have permitted the dissolution of the Rent Board of Lydenburg, Transvaal, to make it possible to eject Indian tenants from certain buildings;

(b) the number of Indian tenants who will be affected by this action; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this matter?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) Yes.

(b) As far as our information goes, about 75 persons of Indian origin were likely to be affected.

(c) Government are not in a position to take any effective steps in this matter. However, we have made a special report to the United Nations regarding the difficulties of persons of Indian origin in South Africa, with particular reference to the dissolution of the Rent Board in Lydenburg. The general question of the treatment of persons of Indian origin in South Africa is also before the United Nations.

#### STARVATION DEATHS OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN TRIPURA

**\*1555. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some displaced persons died of starvation