

Board should be reconstituted. Then, we informed the States. The names have just been received. It would be reconstituted.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** When were the names received?

**Shri Hathi:** Somewhere in the end of October.

#### CRACKERS

\*290. **Shri Keshavalingar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government still issue licences for import of crackers; and

(b) if so, the total quantity of crackers to be imported during the year 1954-55 and the quantity estimated to be produced in the country during the same period?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) Yes, Sir. It is one of the items covered by the general heading 'Fireworks; not otherwise specified' which has a quota of 12½ per cent. of half of best year's imports.

(b) The total imports of Fireworks of all varieties during the year 1954-55 are expected to be of the order of one lakh lbs. worth about Rs. 2.25 lakhs approximately. The estimated indigenous production of fireworks is one million lbs. per annum. Separate figures for crackers as such are not available.

**Shri Keshavalingar:** May I know in which of the States local factories are situated?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I think, largely in Madras; Sivakasi and round about and some other places.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that many accidents, especially among children, happen during the Deepavali festival due to the use of crackers? And will the Government consider the desir-

ability of putting more rigorous check on the use and sale of these fireworks?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I read in the papers something like that. Guardians should take more care of their children.

#### JUTE GRADING

\*291. **Shri Tushar Chatterjee:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 445 asked on the 3rd September, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the difficulties experienced by the Indian Jute Mills Association in accepting Indian Standards Institute's gradation of Jute have since been removed;

(b) if so, in what manner; and

(c) if not, the position at present?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) and (b). Yes; the specifications laid down by the Indian Standards Institution have been accepted with a slight variation in regard to Jute bottoms by the Indian Jute Mills Association and incorporated in their contract forms for the purchase of Indian raw jute.

(c) Does not arise.

**Shri Tushar Chatterjee:** May I know whether there is any machinery to explain to the cultivators about this jute trading?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I do not think there is any machinery. But, we normally expect the State Governments to do it.

#### EMBASSY OFFICE IN MEXICO

\*292. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Embassy Office is soon expected to be opened in Mexico;

(b) the need for opening this new office;