

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) 114,275 in 1951 and 58,401 up to the end of May 1952.

(b) The capacity of the existing factories together with that of the new factories which have been sanctioned is expected to meet the demand of the country.

WORK CHARGED ESTABLISHMENT (PAY SCALE).

462. Shri Vidyalkar: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the pay scales of the work charged establishment at—

- (i) Damodar Valley Project
- (ii) Hirakud Project
- (iii) Nangal Bhakhra Project;

(b) the minimum wage that is being paid at each of the above mentioned works to the following categories of workers—

- (i) Sweepers
- (ii) Chaukidars
- (iii) Cleaners
- (iv) Unskilled workers
- (v) those engaged in digging and carrying loads, etc., and messengers, peons, etc.;

(c) whether any minimum wage has been fixed in the case of stone breakers and road makers there; and

(d) whether any minimum wage has been fixed for any other categories?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

463. Shri Jasani: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) all steps so far been taken by Government to encourage the Cottage Industries in the country;

(b) what was the total expenditure incurred for this purpose during the 3 financial years ending on 31st March, 1952 and how this amount was spent; and

(c) the amount provided for the purpose in 1952-53 Budget?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) I would refer the hon. Member to the

Cottage Industries special number of the Journal of Industry and Trade for June 1952.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX. annexure No. 33.]

(c) Rs. 20 lakhs.

BRANCHES OF PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU

464. Shri C. N. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the expenses incurred by the Press Information Bureau in its branches at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras in 1950, 1951 and 1952;

(b) the main functions of these branches; and

(c) whether Government propose to continue these branches in future?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). A statement showing expenditure incurred on the Branch Offices of the Press Information Bureau at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras during the years 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52, and their main functions is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX. annexure No. 34.]

(c) Yes.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

465. Shri C. N. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the expenses incurred in the Office of the Director of Commercial Intelligence at Calcutta in 1950, 1951 and 1952 on staff and publications; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for effecting economy?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Precise information is not available. It will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) Yes, Sir.

A. I. R. STATION, MYSORE

466. Shri Madiab Gowda: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state what improvements have been effected in the A.I.R. station at Mysore after it has been taken over by the Centre?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): Disc recording facilities were provided at the

Mysore Station soon after it was taken over.

Further improvements were envisaged but these had to be held in abeyance owing to financial stringency.

CHANDRANAGORE

467. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) how do the Government of India intend consulting the people of Chandranagore regarding their future administration;

(b) have the people of Chandranagore or their elected representatives been consulted on the choice of the administration; and

(c) whether steps are being taken for integration of Chandranagore with West Bengal?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). The people of Chandranagore will be consulted before the future administration of Chandranagore is settled. The present arrangement is purely temporary. By the signing of the Treaty of Cession the old Administrative Council ceased to have validity and some temporary arrangement had to be made immediately. This was done after careful consideration and in consultation with the Government of West Bengal and the Administrator of Chandranagore. Further and more permanent changes will be brought in after due consultation with the people. It is not possible to say at present how this will be done.

(c) The question of integration of Chandranagore with West Bengal does not arise. It is for the people of Chandranagore to decide about their future.

SURPLUS DEFENCE STORES

468. Shri Badshah Gupta: Will the **Minister of Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state whether any inventory of articles to be sold by auction or private negotiations of surplus defence stores is prepared with its price and verified by some responsible officer prior to their disposal?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): Yes, Sir. Lists of surplus stores available for disposal are prepared and their reserved/guiding prices are fixed by duly authorised Disposals authorities in consultation with the officers of the Ministry of Finance.

SALES BY U. S. S. R. AT INTERNATIONAL FAIR

469. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the **Minister of Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the total value and list of goods that the Soviet Union sold at the International Fair held in Bombay in the beginning of this year;

(b) whether the sales were made to private firms, individuals or also to Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Soviet representatives had approached the Government of India for the grant of import licenses in respect of other articles displayed at their pavilion;

(d) whether the USSR representatives made all the sales for cash payment or some machines were given on consignment sales;

(e) whether import licenses were secured from the Government of India for the articles thus sold; and

(f) whether Government realised the normal import duty on articles thus sold and if so, what was the value of the import duty?

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

(a) and (b). Two special sale permits for Rs. 3,70,000 and Rs. 23,44,540 were granted by the Ministry for the disposal of Soviet exhibits for sale.

(c) Yes.

(d) and (e). The Government have no information.

(f) The Government have called for the information.