

(b) the various reasons either political or otherwise for such detention or conviction;

(c) the steps Government have taken to assess the correct position of such detention or conviction; and

(d) how many Indian nationals have so far secured their release through the intervention of the Indian Embassies abroad?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (d). A statement showing the number of Indians imprisoned in foreign countries was laid on the Table of the House on the 25th February 1953, in connection with the answer given to Starred Question No. 335.

It would be noticed that out of the 28 persons mentioned in this list, 22 relate to Pakistan.

It is not easy to separate political cases from non-political ones. Normally, the other countries claim that the case is non-political. Whenever information reaches Government about any such case, the Government takes such action as is practicable through diplomatic methods to secure the release of the person concerned or to afford him such other assistance, such as legal help.

It is difficult to give any detailed information about past cases.

DOCUMENTARIES AND NEWS-REELS

554. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the documentaries and news-reels exhibited in cinema houses are given on rental basis;

(b) whether it is a fact that it is compulsory for cinema houses to exhibit these films on rent; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the rent charged for a documentary and a news-reel and the total annual income derived by Government from this source?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes.

(b) Under a condition in the exhibition licence granted by State Governments to cinemas it is obligatory for the cinemas to exhibit a specified footage of 'approved' films. For this purpose films released by the Films Division of this Ministry are 'approved'

films. Rentals for these films are settled between the supplier and the exhibitor.

(c) The rentals charged by the Films Division, are based on a percentage of the box office collections of cinemas and vary from Rs. 5 to Rs. 150 per week. The total income derived by Government from this source will be about Rs. 29 lakhs for the current financial year viz. 1952-53.

HIMRU AND MASHRU CLOTH

555. Dr. Suresh Chandra: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handlooms now operating for the manufacture of rare Himru and Mashru cloth at Aurangabad;

(b) whether any encouragement is being given or proposed to be given to this dying cottage industry of our country; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, in what form the encouragement is given?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) 22 handlooms are reported to be engaged in the manufacture of Himru and Mashru fabrics in Aurangabad.

(b) and (c). Some encouragement is being given by the State Government by advancing loans, supplying yarn at controlled rates etc., and also by giving technical assistance and finding markets for the fabrics.

IRRIGATION AND POWER PROJECTS OF MADRAS STATE

556. Shri Nanadas: (a) Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Statement made by Sri N. Ranga Reddi, Minister of Public Works, Madras at a public meeting at Cuddapah on the 5th January, 1953 that the Madras State Government had recommended eleven irrigation projects and three power projects to the National Planning Commission and if so, what are those projects?

(b) Did the Planning Commission study them and if so, what are the conclusions arrived at?

(c) How many of them have been included in the Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No information is available regarding the statement referred to. The Government of Madras recommended in August, 1951