

and if so, what are the main points of disagreement between India and the U.S.A.?

(d) Is it also a fact that the points of disagreement related to the capacity provided on air services between India and the U.S.A. and the carriage traffic between India and third countries and the effect of such carriage on the development of Indian Commercial Aviation?

(e) If so, what are the views of the two Governments which are in conflict?

(f) What are the interim terms on which U.S. Air Service operates on the Indian skies?

(g) Which U.S. air companies ply their planes in India and how many weekly services do they run?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) I place on the Table a Statement giving the information desired.

(b) Yes, there were informal discussions, but only with reference to the air agreement, signed in November, 1946, between India and U. S. A. No decisions were reached.

(c) and (d). The two Governments are exchanging views in the matter and the points under discussion are those stated in question (d).

(e) The views of the two Governments are at present being exchanged on a confidential basis.

(f) and (g). Trans World Airlines and Pan American Airways are each operating three services a week respectively to and across India. They are doing so under the provisions of the air agreement which was signed between the Government of India and the Government of United States on November 14, 1946, and which is still in force.

STATEMENT

India has concluded long term Agreements for the operation of air transport services with 12 countries, namely, U.S.A., France, Sweden, Pakistan, Ceylon, Switzerland, Australia, Philippines, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Afghanistan and Egypt. All these Agreements, copies of which are available in the Library of the House of the People, are on a reciprocal basis and include provisions regarding capacity which can be provided by the airlines and the categories of traffic which they can carry, the routes which should be followed by the airlines, the rates

they may charge, the facilities and customs treatment to which they shall be entitled, exchange of information and statistics relating to the air services, procedure for the settlement of disputes under the agreement, and certain other technical matters.

TEXTILE FACTORIES

118. Shri Tushar Chatterjea: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile factories in India working in the years 1947 to 1952 and on the 31st January, 1953;

(b) the total number of workers employed in these factories during these years, State-wise; and

(c) the total number of factories closed and workers thrown out of employment during these years, State-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

TEXTILE FACTORIES

119. Shri Tushar Chatterjea: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Textile Factories which were working 3 shifts during 1947 to 1952 and on the 31st January, 1953;

(b) the number of factories working two shifts during these years;

(c) the number of factories which have closed the night shift during these years and workers thrown out of employment, State-wise; and

(d) the number of factories which have closed the second shift and the number of workers thrown out of employment during these years, State-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

120. Shri Eswara Reddy: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether a Glass House has been recently opened in the Indian Agricultural Research Institute?

(b) What are the uses to which this Glass House will be put?

(c) What was the total cost of construction of the Glass House?

(d) Which was the firm that constructed the same and at what terms?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Yes.

(b) The glass house is meant for testing wheat and barley plants against individual races of all the three rusts as also against their mixtures. In addition, the study of physiologic races of the rusts are to be carried out in the glass house so that samples from all over the country can be analysed with a view to help the breeders to evolve varieties resistant to these races on an all-India basis.

(c) Rs. 55,000/-.

(d) The construction of the glass house was done in two parts. Masonry work and supply and fixing of glass were done by Messrs. Kartar Singh and Niranjani Singh & Sons. The building portion costing Rs. 12,000/- was constructed by Shri Kartar Singh, contractor. The glass work costing Rs. 12,000/- was done by Shri Niranjani Singh and Sons. The second part consisting of the superstructure of steel and timber was done departmentally as the rates received from contractors were 40 per cent. above estimates. The total cost of this departmental work was about Rs. 31,000/-.

INDIAN SHIPPING

121. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how many ocean-going ships and how many ships for coastal trade were constructed by private enterprise in India and how many were constructed by Government since 1947?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Ten large cargo ships each of 8,000 D.W.T. and one small passenger ship of 245 D.W.T. were constructed in India at the Visakhapatnam shipbuilding yard since 1947. Out of the ten large cargo ships, six were constructed initially on Government account and were later sold to private companies in India and the remaining four were constructed by the Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd. All these ships are employed in the coastal trade.

Ten other cargo ships of a total tonnage of 43,830 G.R.T. were also constructed for Indian shipping companies in foreign yards since 1947. Out of these four are employed in overseas trades and the rest in the coastal trade.

AIR STRIPS IN WEST BENGAL

122. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how far the scheme to develop two air-strips, one at Balurghat and the other at Cooch-Behar, in West Bengal has progressed;

(b) whether lands for the air bases have been acquired;

(c) how long it will take to complete construction; and

(d) how far the West Bengal Government is assisting in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (d). The airstrips in question are at present controlled and maintained by the West Bengal Government but they have agreed to transfer them to the Central Government. The transfer is expected to be effected by about April, 1953. Steps will be taken to put in hand essential development works and to provide Air Traffic Control and Aeronautical Tele-communications facilities after the airstrips are taken over.

U.N.I.C.E.F.

123. Sardar Hukum Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state what is the amount contributed by India to UNICEF so far?

(b) What amounts have been received by India upto the 31st January, 1952 for various relief and health programmes?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The amount contributed by India to UNICEF so far is Rs. 20,00,000.

(b) The amount allocated by UNICEF to India on various health programmes upto December, 1951 is Rs. 2,36,88,000.

RAW JUTE (PRICE)

124. Shri A. C. Guha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the price of raw jute at the mill rate in the months of October, November and December, 1952 and January, 1953;

(b) what was the price received by the cultivators for raw jute during these months;