

(b) How many of them are lying vacant now?

(c) What is the general procedure for derequisitioning such buildings?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):

(a) The number of buildings in Delhi and New Delhi which are still under requisition with Government is 402.

(b) Requisitioned buildings are not allowed to lie vacant except for brief intervals necessitated by change in allottees.

(c) Cases for release are scrutinized from time to time on applications of the owners or otherwise and decided on individual merits.

TRANSIT CAMPS NEAR CALCUTTA

***218. Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the number of inmates residing as on the 30th June, 1953, in the four transit camps near Calcutta (camp-wise)?

(b) How many of them passed through the reception centre at Seal-dah since January, 1953?

(c) How many of them are from the families of unattached women?

(d) In which camp have they been located?

(e) What is the proportion of incoming and out-going inmates in those four camps in recent months?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):

(a) Cossipore	...	2786 persons
Reliance	...	2,536 persons
Ghushuri	...	4,380 persons
Babughat	...	302 persons
TOTAL	..	10,004 persons

(b) Cossipore	...	129 persons
Reliance	...	848 persons
Ghushuri	...	468 persons
Babughat	...	86 persons
Total	..	1,531 persons

(c) 302 persons.

(d) Babughat Transit Camp.

(e) 66 per cent. (incoming inmates)

CLOSURE OF INDIAN LEGATION IN LISBON

***219. Shri A. K. Gopalan:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have closed down their Legation in Lisbon in protest against the refusal of the Portuguese Government even to discuss the question of Portuguese territories in India?

(b) What further action do Government propose to take in regard to the Portuguese settlements in India?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes. The Legation was closed on the 11th June 1953.

(b) This matter is receiving consideration.

EMBASSY IN RUSSIA

***220. Shri P. C. Bose:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the restriction on the movement of our Ambassador and Embassy Staff in Russia imposed by the Russian Government is still continuing?

(b) If so, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Some of the restrictions previously imposed have been relaxed since June last and large areas of the USSR are now open to foreigners. But a number of restrictions still continue.

(b) Government do not propose to take any special action.

EXPORT OF COAL

***221. Shri Jethalal Joshi:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have abolished the surcharge on export of Indian coal?

(b) If so, has it stimulated the demand for our coal from over-seas countries?

(c) What is the tonnage of the export of coal registered in April, May and June, 1953?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes, the Government have abolished the additional (commercial) charge on exports of coal.

(b) This has not so far resulted in an increase in the demand from overseas countries which depends also on other factors.

(c) The exports to countries other than Pakistan during the months of April, May and June 1953 were 95,640 tons, 1,45,797 tons and 1,06,895 tons, respectively. The exports to Pakistan during the same period were as follows—

April	61,627 tons
May	79,200 tons
June	62,500 tons

(Approximately)

CARD-BOARD FROM GROUNDNUT AND SUGAR CANE WASTE

***222. Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a successful experiment was made for manufacturing card-boards from the waste of groundnuts and sugar-cane?

(b) Have Government established or propose to establish any card-board factory on the basis of the above experiment?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Sugar-cane waste (bagasse) is already being used for the manufacture of card-board. Government are, however, not aware of any successful experiment conducted in the country on the use of groundnut waste for card-board manufacture.

(b) No, Sir.

HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN BIHAR

***223. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry

be pleased to state the nature and extent of encouragement given to the handloom industry in Bihar by the All-India Handloom Board?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The Bihar Government have been asked to send up a scheme for the development of the handloom industry in the State to be financed out of the cess on mill cloth. Their proposals in this regard are awaited.

SPEECH OF UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR

***224. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether in pursuance of the provisions of International Law, a copy of the speech made by the present United States Ambassador to India had been furnished beforehand to the Ministry when he presented his credentials to our President?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): Yes. A copy of the speech made by the Ambassador of the United States of America in India at the time of presentation of his credentials was furnished to the Ministry of External Affairs in advance.

ROCK SALT

***225. Shrimati Kamalendu Mati Shah:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any possibility of mining rock salt in Tehri Garhwal District in U.P.;

(b) if so, whether Government are taking steps in this direction; and

(c) whether Government are aware that some years back there was trade in rock salt between the people of Tibet and Tehri Garhwal?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.