

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

(a) A statement giving the available information is attached. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 12]

(b) Statistics are not maintained on the basis of this classification.

(c) I am not clear what kind of licences the hon. Member wants information about. If the hon. Member is referring to licences under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, only one firm with wholly foreign capital has been given licence.

(d) Each case is considered on merits.

AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURING FIRMS

406. Shri K. C. Sodhia: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the number of firms engaged in automobile industry in this country during 1952-53?

(b) What was—

(i) the total capital invested by each; and

(ii) the percentage of Indian capital to the total investment of each?

(c) Have Government made any stipulation with these firms that all further capital required for expansion will be entirely Indian?

(d) What were the annual foreign remittances made by these firms during 1952-53?

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

(a) Twelve.

(b) A statement is attached. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 13]

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in the due course.

FRANKFURT AUTUMN FAIR

407. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the Government of India propose to participate in the Frankfurt Autumn Fair, which is going to be held in Germany in the month of September 1953?

(b) If so, what are the main items that will be exhibited in this Fair?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

सामुदायिक परियोजनाएँ

४०८. सेठ गोविन्द बल : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि सामुदायिक परियोजनाओं में जून, १९५३ तक कुल कितना व्यय हुआ ?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): Rs. 1,20,61,035-6-11.

SALT PRODUCTION

409. Shri Viswanatha Reddy: (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether Government are aware of a new method of salt production discovered by a British firm?

(b) Does this dye method increase the efficiency of salt jams by 30 per cent.?

(c) If so, what steps are Government taking to introduce this method?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) to (c). About a year back it came to the notice of the Salt Commissioner that the addition of small quantities of a dye called "Solivap Green" to the brine in the salt pans increases the rate of evaporation and the quantum of crystallisation. The net resultant increase in the quantity produced was given out to be about 30 per cent. Since then the Laboratories of the Salt Department at Wadala and Sambhar