

FIREWORKS AND CRACKERS

*992. **Shri Veeraswamy:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of fireworks and crackers from China and Japan which had been stopped in 1947, has been allowed from last year;

(b) if so, the quantity of fireworks imported into India from China and Japan respectively in 1952 and in 1953 so far and the quantity likely to be imported during 1954; and

(c) whether Government have received complaints from indigenous producers of fireworks that they have been adversely affected by this new policy?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir. A token import has been allowed from the current year.

(b) There has been no import from Japan. 2250 lbs. have been imported from China in 1953 (January—October).

No indication of the quantity to be imported in 1954 can be given at present.

(c) Representations have been received from some local manufacturers. Their main grievance is against imports being confined to established importers.

PRIME MINISTER'S NATIONAL RELIEF FUND

*993. **Dr. Rama Rao:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the total amount received towards the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund from the 1st August, 1953 to the 30th November, 1953?

(b) How much was given for the relief of Godavari Flood victims?

(c) Through what agency has it been spent and for what purposes?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) A press note

was issued on the 15th November, 1953, indicating contributions received in the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund during the period 1st August, 1953, to 15th November, 1953, and disbursements made from the Fund for flood relief during the same period.

Total contributions received in the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund from 1st August 1953 to 30th November 1953 amounted to Rs. 10,90,559-14-11.

(b) and (c). Disbursements from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund are normally made through Governors and/or Chief Ministers. A sum of Rs. 3,67,222-6-6 has been sent for flood relief in Andhra during the period 1st August to 30th November, 1953. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 1,31,025-1-6 was sent to the Governor of Madras. This was before the creation of the Andhra State, but the amount was earmarked for flood relief in Andhra. The balance of Rs. 2,36,197-5-0 was sent to the Governor of Andhra State.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

419. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies which manufacture agricultural tools and implements in India;

(b) whether these companies are Indian or foreign and if mixed, the share of Indian and foreign capital in the investments;

(c) the total capacity and the actual annual production;

(d) the total capital invested; and

(e) the number of workers employed in the industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Agricultural tools and implements are manufactured by hundreds of firms in the country including both small-scale and large-scale units. Government do not have precise and complete information on the point in respect of all of them.