

COMMERCIAL ATTACHES

644. Shri Mulchand Dube: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the qualifications of the Indian Commercial Attaches in general who are attached to the various Embassies and Legations in foreign countries?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The Indian Commercial Officers attached to the various Embassies and Legations of India in foreign countries are normally drawn from the Indian Foreign Service which is specially equipped for both diplomatic and commercial posts abroad. When officers of the Indian Foreign Service are not available, officers of other services like the Indian Civil Service, Central Secretariat Service (Class I), etc. who have specialised knowledge and experience of commercial work are also appointed to commercial posts abroad.

FOUNTAIN-PEN INK

646. Shri Jethalal Joshi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of fountain-pen ink required for consumption in our country in 1952-53; and

(b) how much ink is produced in India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Precise information is not available.

(b) The present production of fountain-pen ink in India is about 5,70,000 dozen bottles of 2 oz. each, a year.

ALL INDIA RADIO

647. Shri Gidwani: (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether the scheme to Indianise the staff of the Middle East Units of All India Radio has been implemented?

(b) How many Indians are working in the Middle East Units of All India Radio as Supervisors, Commentators and Translators?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) As far as possible Indian nationals are engaged for posts in the various units of the External Services of All India Radio, including the Middle East units. Foreigners are employed only when suitably qualified Indian nationals are not available. It is essential that the staff employed in various foreign language units should have an adequate knowledge of that particular language for broadcast purposes.

(b) The number of Indian nationals working in the various Middle East units as Supervisors and Translators/Announcers are:—

Pushtu Unit 4 Translators/Announcers.

Arabic Unit 1 Supervisor (Staff Artist).

Afghan Unit 1 Translator/Announcer (Staff Artist).

No Indian national is engaged as a Commentator.

POLITICAL OFFICERS

648. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Tribal and non-tribal candidates interviewed for the posts of Assistant Political Officers and Political Officers;

(b) the number of the tribal and non-tribal candidates selected for the posts;

(c) the qualifications taken into consideration in selecting the candidates;

(d) the pay and allowances of the posts; and

(e) the composition of the Selection Board for the posts?