

PASSPORTS

340. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of persons who applied for passports and the number to whom passports were issued for Eastern Pakistan from Purnea District in 1953?

The Prime Minister (**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru**): The number of persons who applied for passports was 1040. Passports were issued to 901 persons.

CASHEW-NUT FACTORIES

341. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri V. P. Nayar:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cashew-nut factories in India which remained closed on the 1st March, 1954; and

(b) what, if any, are the reasons for the failure to open the factories during the current working season?

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

(a) About 66 according to information obtained from Travancore-Cochin Government.

(b) The reasons appear to be manifold. I understand that the Travancore-Cochin factories are not taking their supplies of imported raw materials from the Bombay importers. There also appears to be a slackening of the demand from overseas.

AUTOMOBILES

342. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to starred question No. 233 asked on the 24th November, 1953 regarding import of cars and state:

(a) the annual requirements of heavy automobiles, trucks and cars for (i) the Government of India, (ii) the State Governments, and (iii) Private Individuals for own use or for business purposes;

(b) the percentage of requirements met from (i) indigenous manufactures, and (ii) assemblages; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange required for these imports during the years 1951-52 and 1952-53?

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

(a) The total demand in India for all kinds of vehicles has been estimated at about 20,000 per annum. Separate figures of motor vehicles required by the Central and State Governments and private individuals cannot be given precisely.

(b) As against the assembly figures of 5617 by the four manufacturers during 1953, the number of cars and trucks that were imported from January-November 1953 was 8453. Government's policy is to concentrate the entire demand for motor vehicles on the approved manufacturers.

(c) A statement is attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 57]

EXPORT TRADE PROMOTION

343. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to promote India's export trade; and

(b) if so, what they are?

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

(a) and (b). A statement is attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 58]

VILLAGE LEATHER INDUSTRY

344. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether some funds have been set apart for the development of village leather industry during the current year;

(b) if so, what amount; and

(c) how it will be allocated?

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

(a) to (c). It is presumed the hon. Member refers to the year 1953-54. A statement is attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 59.]

JUTE (IMPORT)

345. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantities of jute of different varieties imported from Pakistan in 1953-54;

(b) the price paid for each variety per ton;

(c) how these prices compare with the prices paid to Indian jute of the same quality; and

(d) the total quantity of Indian jute purchased by Indian mills and prices paid for them during this period?

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

(a) The total quantity of raw jute imported from Pakistan during the first 11 months of 1953-54 (April, 1953 to February, 1954) was 13.23 lakh bales of 400 lbs. each. Details of break-down into various grades are not recorded in official statistics.

(b) Information regarding prices paid is not available.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Purchase of Indian jute during the first 11 months of 1953-54 (April 1953 to February 1954) by mills in the membership of the Indian Jute Mills Association amounted to 38.44 lakh bales. No information about the actual prices paid is available.

TEA BOARD

346. Shri Ramananda Das: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what steps Government have taken to improve the internal and external consumption of tea

since the formation of the Central Tea Board?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): A statement is attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 60]

EXPORT OF HIDES

347. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any ban for export of raw cow and buffalo hides was imposed in 1949;

(b) if so, to what country or countries;

(c) how far it had affected the balance of trade position; and

(d) the quantities of these two kinds of raw hides that were imported from Pakistan since the ban in 1949 was imposed on Indian export?

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

(a) The ban was imposed on 4th April, 1951 and still continues.

(b) All destinations.

(c) As exports of hides have always been subjected to controls and limited to 15 per cent. of basic year's performance its influence on the overall balance of trade was negligible.

(d) A statement is attached. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 61]

INDIAN TEA MARKET EXPANSION BOARD

348. Shri Ramananda Das: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent each year by the Indian Tea Market Expansion Board for internal and external propaganda for the consumption of tea;

(b) the details of such expenses in India and outside India; and

(c) the number of Indians employed in Tea Council in America and other countries?