

November, 1954 on the Indo-Pakistan border of East and West Punjab;

(b) the nature of incidents; and

(c) the number of such incidents that have been amicably settled between the two Governments?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

INDIANS IN AFGHANISTAN

2. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of Indians in Afghanistan at present; and

(b) the professions in which they are engaged?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Approximately 300.

(b) Most of them are traders. Others are their employees and those working in the Indian Embassy and Indian Consular offices, and in the U.N. Organisations.

COAL

4. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the basic ground for continued control of coal specially on its production and distribution;

(b) the production of coal in 1945 and at present;

(c) the average daily loading in Bihar and Bengal coal-fields in 1945 and at present; and

(d) the percentage of good quality coal produced in our collieries?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The production and distribution control on coal aims at making the best use of the available transport so as to enable the consumers to get their requirements regularly; to ensure that better grades of coal of

which India's resources are limited are not used by consumers who can do with lower grades and to enable regular off-take of production when production is planned. Conservation of metallurgical coal is sought to be achieved by exercising production control. Control in general ensures stability to the coal industry and the distribution of coal on a planned basis.

(b) and (c). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 9.]

(d) The total production of coal upto grade I in the Bengal-Bihar fields is about 77.8 per cent. of the total production from these fields, and 63 per cent. of the total production of coal in India.

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

5. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to give a resume of the steps taken so far under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act of 1951 in the matter of developing and regulating the Pharmaceutical Industry in India and state:

(a) how many licences have been issued so far for the manufacture of pharmaceutical drugs to (i) foreign enterprises in India, (ii) Indo-foreign collaboration concerns, and (iii) Indian concerns; and

(b) the purposes for which they have been issued in each case?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (1) All existing pharmaceutical undertakings employing 50 or more workers with power or 100 or more workers without power have been registered under the Act. In this process these undertakings have declared their items of manufacture and their capacity for these items.

(2) The establishment of (a) new undertakings, (b) substantial expansions of existing undertakings, and (c) manufacture of 'new articles' in the

pharmaceutical industry has been regulated by the issue of licences under the Act, after taking into consideration the existing capacity for the items to be manufactured, the demand for the items and the pattern of development in the industry. As far as possible manufacture from a basic material is encouraged and mere processing like tableting, bottling, vialling, ampouling, etc., from imported drugs is discouraged.

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| (a) Foreign enterprises | 5. |
| Indo-foreign enterprises | 4. |
| Indian | 17. |

(b) A statement is attached. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 10.]

JUTE PACKING MATERIAL

6. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Indian jute packing material exported to different countries during the period 1st April to 30th September, 1954;

(b) the names of the countries to which it was exported;

(c) whether it is a fact that exports have decreased in recent months;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to improve the export position?

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

(a) and (b). A statement giving the requisite information is attached. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 11.]

(c) No, Sir. Average monthly exports during the half year ending September, 1954, were 73.2 thousand tons against 66.3 and 63.2 thousand tons during the corresponding period of 1952 and 1953 respectively.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

RUBBER

7. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Indian rubber exported to foreign countries during

the period from 1st April to the 15th October, 1954;

(b) whether any export duty is levied thereon;

(c) if so, what is the rate of the duty; and

(d) what are the average prices of Indian Rubber (i) in the country and (ii) foreign markets during the current year?

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

(a) Nil.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) (i) The prices of all grades of rubber (except sole crepe) are controlled. The price of RMA—1 is Rs. 138 per 100 lbs. f.o.b. Cochin, with suitable differentials for other grades.

(ii) Does not arise.

HOUSES BUILT IN DELHI

8. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of houses built in Delhi and New Delhi during the current year till the 30th September, 1954;

(b) how many of these houses were built by Government;

(c) how many of these were meant for the Government employees;

(d) the total amount spent so far by Government on the construction of these houses; and

(e) the total monthly rent of these houses?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The information is not readily available.

(b) The construction of 2962 houses was completed by the Central Public Works Department during the current year till the 30th September 1954.

(c) 741 houses were constructed for Government employees; the remaining have been constructed for Displaced persons, and Members of Parliament.