

BRICK MANUFACTURE

230. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha : Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the steps taken to popularise the scientific method to ensure lesser consumption of coal in baking bricks?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy) : The methods that could be adopted to ensure lesser consumption of coal in baking bricks, have been brought to the notice of the Brick Makers' Association.

HINDUSTAN ANTIBIOTICS LIMITED

231. Dr. Amin : Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity that the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited are producing at present of penicillin and other antibiotics and at what cost ; and

(b) the price charged to the purchasers for the bulk supply?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy) : (a) Penicillin only is being produced at present at the rate of 7,50,000 mega-units per month. It will not be in the interest of the Factory to disclose the cost of production.

(b) Some initial sales fetched a price of Rs. 312-8-0 per thousand mega-units.

ADDITIONAL EXCISE ON DHOTIES

232. Shri Jhulan Sinha : Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cloth mills which have rendered themselves liable under "The Dhoties (Additional Excise Duty) Act, 1953 ; and

(b) the total amount of additional excise duties thus realised upto the 31st December, 1955?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari) : (a) and (b). These statements showing the names of mills and total collections of penal excise

duty for 1953-54, 1954-55 and 1955-56, (upto September 1955), are attached. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 25.]

RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN

233. Shri Dabhi : Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in "Rashtrapati Bhavan" all the traditional furnishings are being replaced with khadi ; and

(b) if so, the estimated cost thereof?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh) :

(a) It is not a fact that in "Rashtrapati Bhavan" all the traditional furnishings are being replaced with Khadi. Khadi is being progressively used for replacing old furnishings.

(b) The estimated cost of furnishings during the year 1955-56 replaced is Rs. 20,000.

ALL-INDIA HANDICRAFTS BOARD

234. Sardar Hukam Singh : Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state :

(a) the amounts of loans and grants sanctioned to the All-India Handicrafts Board during 1955 ; and

(b) the amounts given to various States, during this period, for the development of handicrafts?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 26.]

A.I.R. NATIONAL PROGRAMME

235. Shri Heda : Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state :

(a) the number of National Programmes held at (i) Delhi Station and (ii) all other stations during 1955 ; and