

A. I. R. Artists

1340. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that artists and writers are employed in service on yearly and monthly basis in Radio Stations;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any representation in respect thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the representation?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). As a rule artists and writers are employed in All India Radio on the basis of a three-year contract and there are few cases where they have been employed on yearly or monthly contract. The last representations received in this matter were in the years 1949 and 1952. The policy has since been accepted of discontinuing the practice of giving contracts on yearly or monthly basis excepting in cases of purely temporary or acting vacancies.

Cottage Industries

1341. **Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to set up a Board at the Centre as well in each State to devise ways and means to safeguard cottage industries like the manufacture of shoes, chappals and the tanning of leather; and

(b) if so, the composition of such Boards?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, in several States, there are Khadi & Village Industries Boards and Small Scale Industries Boards consisting of non-officials and officials.

Civic Receptions to Distinguished Foreign Visitors

1342. **Shri Ramachandra Reddi:**

Shri N. R. Muniswamy:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent out of the Central Government Funds on Civic receptions in Delhi to distinguished foreign visitors to India in 1956 so far;

(b) the number of such receptions; and

(c) the average expenditure per reception?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) So far the Government of India have not incurred any expenditure on the Civic receptions held in Delhi in honour of distinguished foreign visitors.

(b) Six.

(c) We have no information.

Button Factories, Mehsi

1343. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mehsi (Champanan-Bihar) button factories are facing crisis because of the competition from plastic buttons; and

(b) whether the production has come down during 1955-56 as compared to the year 1953-54?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The production in the Button Industry in Mehsi in 1955-56 was less than in the previous year, but that Industry is now reported to be improving, as a result of the efforts made by the State Government to supply raw materials and facilitate marketing of finished products. The restrictive import policy now in force in respect of such buttons has also given a fillip to the Button Industry.

भारत और तिब्बत के बीच यात्रा

१३४४. श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या प्रधान मंत्री २३ अप्रैल, १९५६ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १६६७ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या तिब्बती अधिकारी पश्चिमी हिमालय में प्रमाण-पत्र और आज्ञा-पत्र लागू करने की योजना से सहमत हो गये हैं ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं तो इस विषय में अन्य क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

वैदेशिक कार्य मंत्री के सभा-सचिव (श्री सादत अली) का: (क) और (ख). जी हां। चीनी अधिकारियों ने १० अक्तूबर, १९५६ से पश्चिमी तिब्बत से भारत में आने वाले रास्तों पर प्रमाण-पत्र की प्रणाली (सर्टिफिकेट सिस्टम) शुरू कर दी है।