

of automatic looms of different makes is as under:—

Range of Reed space	Range of price per loom C. I. F.
Indigenous 40" to 52"	Rs. 3375 to Rs. 3675 (approx.) (Ex works)
Swiss make -do-	Rs. 9500 to Rs. 10100
Japanese make -do-	Rs. 3400 to Rs. 3800
U.K. make 37.5" to 60"	Rs. 5000 to Rs. 6800
German make 41" to 53"	Rs. 4000 to Rs. 4300

(b) Number of automatic looms imported since 1st January 1957 to August 1957 is 689, valued at Rs. 42,76,650/-.

(c) Indigenous production of automatic looms during April to December 1957 was 307 Nos. Expected production during 1957-58 is 707 Nos.

Indians in African Countries

218. Shri Ram Krishna: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians employed in African countries, country-wise;

(b) the occupations they follow; and

(c) the disabilities, if any, that have been imposed upon them in recent years?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath All Khan): (a) The exact number of Indians employed in African countries is not known. The only way of obtaining this information is through our Missions. In some African countries, we have no Missions and where we have, it may not be easy for them to obtain the precise information. In view of these difficulties and because of the time and labour involved, it is not proposed to collect the information.

(b) Indians residing in African countries are mainly employed in trade and commerce professions and in Government and private services.

(c) In certain territories of Africa, e.g., Portuguese East Africa, Central

Africa etc., the disabilities are mainly in respect of remittances to India and entry of dependents into those territories.

Coir Industry

219. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total number of workers engaged in the Coir Industry according to the latest information, with break up of figures of those employed in (i) processing husks into fibre; (ii) making yarn; and (iii) in mats and matting manufacture?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): A statement is attached. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 82.]

Coir Yarn

220. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the average earnings of the workers in the coir yarn making and mats and mattings section of the Coir Industry in each year after the formation of the Coir Board; and

(b) the minimum wages fixed, if any, during the period?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). A statement is attached. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 83.]

Tea Consumption

221. Shri Biren Roy: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated internal consumption of tea for 1957-58 as compared with 1956-57;

(b) the total actual internal consumption of tea for the last five years;

(c) whether it is a fact that rupees one lakh was wasted on house rent alone before any Tea Centre could be opened either at Bombay or at Madras; and