

(d) the time by which the action is likely to be initiated for implementing the same?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Import of Films

***27. Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce met him at Madras on the 21st May, 1958 and submitted a memorandum on the import of films;

(b) if so, what are the demands of the deputationists; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands of the deputationists were:

(i) Complete restoration of cut in imports of raw films; and

(ii) Adequate supply of raw films to meet the minimum requirements of the industry.

(c) As regards (i) it has been noted and will be considered at the time of the review of import policy for the next half year consistent with the amount of foreign exchange that may be available.

As regards (ii) the ratio of distribution of raw films among the production Centres of Bombay, Madras and Calcutta has since been revised to 50:39:11.

Indo-Pakistan Agreement on Movable Property

***28. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 15 on the 11th February, 1958 and state the further progress made if any, in the implementation of the Indo-

Pakistan Agreement on movable property?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): Some further progress has been made in regard to recovery of buried treasures and exchange of evacuee fire-arms, bank drafts, and lists of movable property. In all other matters, there has been practically no progress; even the meeting of the Implementation Committee which was to be held on the 16th and 17th July, 1958, has been postponed to the middle of October, 1958 at the request of the Pakistan Government.

Stock of Unsold Cloth

***29.** { **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Damani:
Shri N. R. Munisamy:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

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

(a) what is the present stock of unsold cloth with the Textile Mills;

(b) the reasons for the accumulation; and

(c) the steps taken to clear the accumulation?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 10.]

Indian Statistical Institute

***30.** { **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shri Halder:
Shri Surendramath Dwivedy

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to complaints and criticisms in regard to the working of the Indian Statistical Institute; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) The accounts of the Institute are audited by Chartered Accountants. No instance of misuse of public funds by the Institute has been brought to notice by the auditors. If any particular instance of inefficiency is brought to the notice of the authorities of the Institute, I am sure they will do their best to rectify matters. I do not think it is necessary for Government to intervene in the internal arrangements of the Institute. Government nominees are members of various bodies of the Institute and important matters are carefully discussed in such bodies. The Institute has grown greatly and has done very commendable work.

Landslide in N.E.F.A.

*31. { Shri Bose:
Shrimati Masida Ahmed:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri Bhakt Darashan:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of persons including Government employees were buried alive in a landslide in the North-East Frontier Agency on 25/26th May, 1958;

(b) details of the incident;

(c) whether any rescue operation was undertaken after the incident; and

(d) the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) Yes, 48 persons are believed to have lost their lives in the accident.

(b) to (d). A statement giving full details is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 11.]

Indians in South Africa

*32. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indians coming under the operation of the South African Government's Group Areas Act are not allowed to sell their property at free market value; and

(b) whether it is also true that these affected Indians can buy houses in an area proclaimed as "Indian" at an increased cost?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) It is understood that the South African Government have prescribed a special procedure for fixing the "basic value" of the affected properties. If the property is sold above the basic value, the Group Areas Development Board must be paid 50% of the excess. If it is sold at less than the basic value the Board must pay the owner 80% of his loss.

(b) The Government of India have no information.

Roving Envoys

*33. { Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Bimal Ghose:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to appoint in U.S.A. and U.K. additional high officials besides their Ambassador and High Commissioner who might function as Roving Envoys in these countries; and

(b) if so, what specific work will be assigned to them and the term for which these posts will be created?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to appoint a Roving Ambassador