

(b) and (c). A statement showing country-wise import of raw films during 1955 to 1958 (January-April, 1958) is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 40].

(d) The declared stock of raw films as on the 30th June, 1958 was 8.59 million feet.

(e) Raw films are licensed during the current half year to Established Importers on a quota of 60 per cent. Gen. and 60 per cent. Soft. Certain imports are also effected through State Trading Corporation on rupee payment and licences are also proposed to be granted on Export Promotion basis.

Fuel Injection Equipment and Pumps

547. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Ram Krishan:

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

(a) the total production of fuel injection equipment and pumps during 1958 so far; and

(b) the steps taken to increase the production of these items?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) In the first half of 1958, production was of the value of about Rs. 92 lakhs, as detailed in the statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 41].

(b) Within the available foreign exchange, every assistance is being given to the manufacturing firms for the import of raw materials, semi-finished and finished components to increase their production, in accordance with the approved programmes of manufacture.

Fixation of Minimum Wages

548. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2044 on the 7th May, 1953 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations made by the Revision Committee in regard to the notification fixing minimum wages for the workers employed in the construction works under the Central Government have since been examined; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) The recommendations made by the Revision Committee in its 6th meeting have been duly considered and all the Employing Ministries have been requested to furnish proposals for revision of minimum rates of wages in the Central sphere undertakings keeping in view the recommendations of the Committee, direct to the Chief Labour Commissioner, who is the Chairman of the Revision Committee, so that those specific proposals can be considered at the next meeting of the Revision Committee. In the meanwhile, the recommendations of the 3rd and 5th meetings of the Revision Committee in respect of the workers employed in the construction works have been notified and objections and suggestions have been invited by the 5th October, 1958.

Export of Monkeys

549. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

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

(a) the number of monkeys exported to foreign countries from 1st November, 1957 to 31st March, 1958 and

from 1st April to 31st July, 1958 for the purpose of scientific research; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned as a result thereof?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) 72,338 monkeys were exported from 1st November, 1957 to 31st March, 1958. 2,708 monkeys were exported from 1st April to 30th June, 1958. Figures for July, 1958 are not yet available.

(b) Rs. 58.7 lakhs were earned during the period 1st November, to 30th June, 1958. Information for July, 1958 is not yet available.

Amber Charkha Centres in Punjab

550. { Sardar Iqbal Singh;
Shri Ram Krishan:

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

(a) the number of centres of Ambar Charkha in Punjab at present; and

(b) the number of Charkhas distributed in these centres in 1956-57 and 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) 855 Ambar Charkha centres were set up upto 30th June, 1958.

(b) The number of charkhas distributed during 1956-57 and 1957-58 were as under:—

Year	No. of charkhas distributed.
1956-57	2492
1957-58	8093

Closure of Palana Colliery

551. { Shri D. C. Sharma;
Shri Bose;
Shri Muhammed Elias:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mining operations in the Palana Colliery in Bikaner division have been stopped since June, 1958;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of workers rendered unemployment?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes, the underground mining operations in the colliery have been stopped since 18-6-58.

(b) The available reserves of lignite which could be extracted from the existing pits were almost exhausted and a fire broke out in the pits about the middle of May, 1958 making any further working dangerous.

(c) 157 (Underground Workers).

Detention of an Indian Army Havildar in Pakistan

552. { Shri D. C. Sharma;
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Dhurjati Prasad Dutta, an Indian Army Havildar, on arrival in East Pakistan to see his relatives was charged with sedition against the Pakistan Government and, though later found not guilty in a trial, has again been kept under detention in the Jessore Jail; and

(b) if so, the causes thereof?

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

(b) Shri Dhurjati Prasad Dutta has been placed in detention under section 3 of the Pakistan Foreigners Act of 1946 for allegedly anti-Pakistan activities.

Detention of a Correspondent of P.T.I. by Lebanon Security Police

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Wilfred Lazarus, Correspondent of the Press Trust of India, was detained on