

(a) whether any candidates were sent abroad under the Colombo Plan for receiving training in such fields as aluminium, wall boards, glass tubes, fine chemicals, and anti-friction alloys during 1955-56;

(b) if so, how many were sent for training in each field; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred or proposed to be incurred on these candidates?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a), (b) and (c). None during 1955-56 as such. In April 1956, however, a candidate was sent to Australia for training in wall boards for a period of six months. The salary of this candidate will be borne by the industrial unit sponsoring him, while the passage and other expenses in the country of training will be borne by the Government of Australia.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know if any other candidates are likely to be sent in the near future under this Plan?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think, Sir, that a few cases are pending, because there are difficulties in the particular countries where they desire to go. I think that these cases may be finalised and we may be able to send.

FOREIGN INDUSTRIAL EXPERTS UNDER THE POINT FOUR PROGRAMME

*304. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH (ON BEHALF OF MOULANA M. FARUQI): Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether services of any foreign experts were secured for the development of glass moulds, plastic moulds, tea chest plywood, textile machinery and blacksmithy under the Point Four Programme and United Nations' Technical Assistance Administration during 1955-56; and

(b) if so, how many experts were engaged for each of these industries?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) and (b). The services of one expert for the development of tea-chest plywood industry were secured.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MANUFACTURE OF RAW FILMS

*317. DR. D. H. VARIAVA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to manufacture raw film for motion picture photography and for medical purposes; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, where the factory is proposed to be located; and what will be its annual production capacity?

THE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. M. SHAH): (a) and (b). The matter is under investigation and we are not in a position to state when and where the factory will be started nor to indicate its capacity at present.

PRODUCTION OF NEEDLES

*325. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the reasons for the short-fall in the production of knitting and gramophone needles during the year 1955?

THE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES (SHRI N. KANUNGO): It is difficult to give an explanation for the short-fall in the production of both knitting needles and gramophone needles during the year 1955. It has been suggested that consumer preference has