

drawn up an ambitious plan for the Second Five Year Plan period, and it is considered desirable that a delegation on behalf of the Board should go now in order to study the organisation methods, marketing methods and research methods.

PROF. G. RANGA: Was it not a fact that some of the Japanese experts in cottage industries and handicrafts were invited to this country; and they remained here for some time and worked under the guidance, I suppose, of my hon. friend, the other Minister there, and they also left their suggestions to the Government of India; and in spite of that the Government of India wants to send these delegations after delegations?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not a question.

KOREAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

***176. SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 422 in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th April 1955 and state how many of the Korean ex-prisoners of War in India have since been repatriated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): Five more prisoners, (one Chinese and four North Koreans) have since been repatriated to their respective homelands.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: Sir, in answer to question No. 422, it was stated last April that 31 had opted for India. Have they been settled in this country?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: 34 who have opted for India are being given training in certain trades in our camps.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: About the other prisoners who had opted for different countries, have those countries agreed to take them?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: There are 48 of them who have opted for certain South American countries. We have not yet had final replies from those countries.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: May I say something, Sir? This matter has given us a lot of trouble and we have repeatedly approached the United Nations Secretariat about it—because they are dealing with it—but without any substantial result. As a matter of fact, we have suggested that this and connected matters should be brought up before the General Assembly of the United Nations for them to consider.

IMPORT OF COTTON FROM THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

***177. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY:** Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that talks for importing cotton from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics are going on between the representatives of the Indian textile industry and the representatives of the Soviet Union; and

(b) if so, whether the Government of India were consulted in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) and (b). A representative of the Soviet Union had contacted the Government some time back for exploring the possibilities of exportation of U. S. S. R. cotton to India. He was advised to negotiate with the trade, as imports of cotton into India is left to private parties. Government is not aware of further developments in the matter.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, before the trade interests were permitted to carry on negotiations, was it examined what the Russian cotton was and whether it suited our mill structure?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, whether this question is being actively engaging the consideration of the Government?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir. We have put the Soviet representative in touch with the trade and we have no further information about it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, the total amount of cotton imported every year and from which countries this stuff is imported?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I suppose I have got that information in connection with question No. 179.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Have Government any information as to what variety of cotton had been offered? Was it long staple or short staple?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Long staple.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Is there any information about the prices offered and how they compare?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir. I may mention that a trial consignment of 500 bales was imported by certain parties in India and they are being tried out.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Have Government any information as to the price at which it was imported and the results obtained?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: We have no information, Sir.

EXPORT AND PRICE OF INDIAN-MADE MOTOR CARS

*178. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state what efforts are being made to export Indian-made cars to its neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): Export of

Indian motor cars is licensed freely. But it is unlikely that any substantial business will result therefrom as Indian made cars are more costly than comparable models from other countries.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know, Sir, if the manufacturers have not been permitted to cut down the export price in order to capture the market?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: We do not mind if they sell them free.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: In view of the fact that we still import motor cars from abroad, may I know the reason why the licences have been granted for exporting Indian made motor cars?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, since the quality of our car is quite good, if exports could be made, we shall be happy. We have stopped all imports of built-up cars.

CONSUMPTION OF LONG STAPLE COTTON

*179. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the quantity of long staple cotton consumed in India in each year from 1950-51 onwards?

THE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES (SHRI N. KANUNGO): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Cotton year	Consumption of long staple cotton of 7/8" and above	Figures in bales of 400 lbs.
1950-51 . . .		1,591,000
1951-52 . . .		1,935,000
1952-53 . . .		1,872,000
1953-54 . . .		1,765,000
1954-55 (for 8 months up to 30-4-55) . . .		1,427,000

SHRI M. VALIULLA: With regard to the cotton consumed in India, may I know, Sir, whether all the cotton