

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SHIFTING OF NON-SECRETARIAT OFFICES FROM DELHI

*404. SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for shifting non-Secretariat offices from Delhi has been finalised;

(b) what is the number of officers, subordinates and class IV servants in each of these offices; and

(c) what are the places to which these offices will be shifted?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a), (b) and (c). I place on the Table of the Council a statement showing the offices which it is tentatively felt could be moved out of Delhi and the various places to which they could be moved [See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 190]. A rapid survey of the latest position in regard to the accommodation both residential and office in these towns is now being taken in hand and when this review is completed, it will be possible to consider which of these offices could be moved and if so to which towns.

DISCHARGE OF EMPLOYEES OF CENTRAL STATIONERY OFFICE, CALCUTTA

♦405. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that discharge notices were served last month on a number of quasi-permanent employees of the Central Stationery Office, Calcutta;

(b) if so, what were the reasons for the serving of the discharge notices on those employees;

(c) what is (i) the number, and (ii) the length of service, of the said employees; and

(d) whether Government have received any representations from or on

behalf of these discharged employees and if so, whether any action has been taken on those representations?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The posts held by these employees were considered surplus to requirements.

(c) (i) Twenty-six.

(ii) It varies from 6 to 12 years.

(d) Yes, Sir. Efforts are being made to absorb them in other establishments under the same department or in other sister departments.

EXPORT TO GOA

*406. DR. RAGHU VIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the articles the export of which to Goa has been banned?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): Exports to Goa are governed by the Government of India's export control regulations; there is no special ban on exports to Goa.

FEES FOR A.I.R. WRITE-UPS

*407. SHRI FRASADARAO: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the fees paid for the All India Radio write-ups;

(b) the conditions of the contract for these write-ups; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to revise those fees and the conditions of such contracts?

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR): (a) No uniform scale of fees is prescribed for write-ups. The fees depend upon the nature of the write-ups such as talks, songs, plays, etc. and also upon the merit and standing of the writer.

(b) A copy of the various contract forms, which are used by All India Radio, giving the various conditions is

placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 191.]

(c) There is no proposal for the revision of fees. In respect of conditions of contract certain amendments are under consideration such as provision for re-broadcasting or relaying by foreign broadcasting organisations, mechanical reproduction and rights of concurrent publication.

COCA AND CHOCOLATE INDUSTRY

*408. SHRI PRASADARAO: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual production of coca powder and chocolate in the country; and

(b) whether any representations have been received by Government for the protection of this industry by prohibiting imports of these commodities?

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

(a) 1953—

Cocoa powder .. 141-3 tons.

Chocolate .. 239-9 tons.

(b) Some representations were received against the import of semi-processed materials used in the manufacture of chocolates.

CLOSURE OF ART SILK MILLS

*409. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many art silk manufacturing mills closed down during the last month;

(b) what is the total number of labourers rendered unemployed on account of these closures:

(c) what are the reasons for the closure of these mills; and

(d) whether any steps were taken by Government to prevent the closing down of these mills?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a), (b) and (c). In view of the levy of excise duty on art silk cloth under the Finance Bill, 1954, representations were received from various mills and their Associations stating that they would have to close down. But in so far as Government are aware, no art silk mill had actually closed down last month.

(d) Government have already announced reduction of the central excise duty on art silk cloth from one anna six pies per yard to one anna per square yard.

MATCH FACTORIES

356. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many 'A' type match factories in India whose production exceeds 5 lakhs gross of match boxes per annum are owned by—

(i) Indians;

(ii) foreigners; and

(iii) partly by Indians and partly by foreigners; and

(b) what is the annual production of the other types of match factories in the country?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNA-MACHARI):

(a) (i) One.

(ii) None.

(iii) Six.

(b) It was 182,554 cases of 50 gross boxes of 60 sticks each during the year 1953.

FIRMS MANUFACTURING PAINTS AND VARNISHES

357. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of foreign firms in India which are manufacturing paint and varnishes: and