

PROF G RANGA: Is it a fact that even those artistes who have been employed for a long number of years are still kept on a temporary basis and they have not been given any permanent commission?

DR B V KESKAR Though this question does not arise from the main question, I don't mind enlightening my hon friend But I do not know what he means by "commission"

PROF G RANGA Assignment or employment that is what I mean

DR B V KESKAR Artistes are employed on contract There are several who are employed on long terms and several others who are on contracts of shorter duration It is difficult to lay down one definite rule for all of them

PROF G RANGA Does not this mean that these people do not get the advantage of provident funds and other advantages which permanent officers enjoy?

DR B V KESKAR Sir my hon friend Prof Ranga who is well informed about subjects is making some mistake somewhere because it is definitely mentioned in the question that it relates to 'casual artistes' They are persons who are maintained on a register who are free artistes When necessary they are invited to broadcast They may accept the offer or they may reject It is for them to decide But Prof Ranga is confounding them with people who are regularly employed

SHRI B K P SINHA If the system of permanent employment is extended to the radio artistes will not the standard of the AIR deteriorate and will not future talent that will be coming up be kept out permanently from this opportunity?

SHRI T R DEOGIRIKAR How many artistes are exempted from audition?

DR B V KESKAR There is no such thing as exemption, Sir The artistes are auditioned by a committee and if they consider that certain artistes are sufficiently well-known and are of a very high standard they can exempt them It is not necessary to include it in the rules

SHRI N S HARDIKER Has the Government started any musical schools in the country in order to improve music?

(No reply)

#### PRODUCTION OF SHEETS AND PLATES

\*367 DR SHRIMATI SEETA PARAMANAND Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state

(a) whether the new iron and steel plant will be used for the production of sheets and plates mainly,

(b) the names of the places where the sheets and plates are produced and the industries which consume them at present,

(c) the total India's annual requirement of these sheets and plates, and how many of them are imported, and

(d) what was the quantity of sheets and plates sold in the year 1952-53 and what is the approximate quantity that will be required in the years 1955-56 and 1956-57?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K C REDDY) (a) Yes

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Council

(c) India's annual requirements of plates and sheets in 1955-56 are estimated at 200,000 tons and 400,000 tons respectively During the year 1952 the quantities of plates and sheets imported were 6,000 tons and 5,000 tons respectively

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Council

## STATEMENT

Messrs. Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited, Jamshedpur produce sheets and plates and Messrs. Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited, Asansol, Bengal produce sheets.

Plates are mainly consumed by the following industries:—

- (i) Steel processing industries
- (ii) Shipbuilding and repairs
- (iii) Boilers (locomotive and industrial)
- (iv) Railway carriage and wagons
- (v) Structural
- (vi) Pressure vessels
- (vii) Storage tanks
- (viii) Industrial plant and machinery
- (ix) Ordnance equipment and stores
- (x) Safes & security equipment
- (xi) Hume pipes
- (xii) Large diameter welded steel pipes

Sheets are consumed by the following industries:—

- (i) Barrels, drums and containers
- (ii) Railway carriage and wagons
- (iii) Roofing
- (iv) Buckets
- (v) Trunks
- (vi) Expanded metal
- (vii) Enamel ware
- (viii) Hospital equipment and furniture
- (ix) Steel pipes and conduit pipes
- (x) General building hardware
- (xi) Automobiles
- (xii) Cycles
- (xiii) Refrigerators
- (xiv) Ordnance stores
- (xv) Agricultural implements, such as shovels, Persian wheel buckets, etc.
- (xvi) Colliery tubs
- (xvii) Belt lacing

## STATEMENT

*Plates and Sheets despatched in 1952-53*

<i>Plates—</i>	<i>Tons</i>
From indigenous production.	54,000
From imports . . . . .	6,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,000</b>

*Sheets—*

From indigenous production .	230,000
From imports . . . . .	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>235,000</b>

*Anticipated demand of Plates and Sheets**1955-56—*

<i>Plates</i> . . . . .	200,000
<i>Sheets</i> . . . . .	400,000

*1956-57—*

<i>Plates</i> . . . . .	} Same as in 1955-56
<i>Sheets</i> . . . . .	

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: In the statement, Sir, there is no reply to my question (b) in respect of the portion "the names of the places where the sheets and plates are produced".

SHRI K. C. REDDY: If the hon. Member will please look at the statement she will find that the very first paragraph covers the reply to her question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: "Messrs. Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited, Jamshedpur produce sheets and plates and Messrs. Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited, Asansol, Bengal produce sheets." That is the answer given to your question.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMA-NAND: I am sorry. Will the Minister kindly say where these plates and sheets are marketed and whether they are in the eastern part of the country or in the western part at present?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I have given the names of the industries which consume these articles. If the hon. Member gives notice of that question I will be able to answer. But I may say this that mainly these articles, namely, sheets and plates, are consumed in the eastern part of the country.

PROF. G. RANGA: There is some news in this morning's papers that

negotiations for the starting of a second iron and steel plant are in progress. May we have any further information?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: We are planning the setting up of a second steel plant. No negotiations have started.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether it is proposed to undertake in this new plant the manufacture of boiler plates more than six feet in width and also of main slab frames of standard size?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: It is too big a question and I should like to have notice to answer it.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Has not any suggestion in this matter been submitted to the Government by some engineers engaged in the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I have no information.

#### PASSPORTS ISSUED FOR TRAVEL ABROAD

\*368. SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons were granted passports during the last six months by Government for travel abroad;

(b) the number of persons from each State;

(c) how many Members of Parliament are included in this;

(d) how many applications for passports were rejected; and

(e) how many Members of Parliament were denied passports for travel abroad and why?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): (a), (b) and (d). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when ready.

(c) and (e). As no separate record is kept of passport applications received from Members of Parliament, it is not possible to furnish this information.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: When an application is made by a Member of Parliament surely the Government does come to know and when it is rejected there must be very special reasons. Government ought to have the information as to in which cases and when and for what reasons such applications have been rejected. May I know the position, Sir?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: There are 28 passport issuing authorities in India, apart from every foreign embassy issuing it. Of course, I can trace the fact by enquiry in regard to this number but no records are kept of Members of Parliament as such and each individual case will have to be traced. Possibly in regard to one or two cases one may easily find out the number and remember it. If the House wants to know the exact figures I could not possibly give it without elaborate enquiries.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: The information that I want is whether the State Governments have complete discretion in the matter of issuing passports to Members of Parliament or whether they ask for advice or direction from the Central Government in case they propose to reject any application.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No. The final authority rests with the Government of India, but normally the Government of India accept the State Government's advice or recommendations in the matter, or, to put it differently, the State Government normally functions except when the Government of India overrules them and asks them to function otherwise.

PROF. G. RANGA: May I take it then, Sir, that in very extraordinary circumstances a State Government or the Union Government refuses to give