

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a), (b) and (c). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Council as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FRENCH EXPERTS REGARDING THE RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE HINDUSTHAN SHIPYARD

*380. SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state what are the recommendations of the experts of the French firm regarding the re-organization of the Hindusthan Shipyard?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY): AS the development plan of the Shipyard is still under the consideration of Government it is not yet possible to publish the French Firm's report.

GRANT OF IMPORT LICENCE TO MESSRS. KALINGA TUBES OF ORISSA

*381. SHRI T. V. KAMALA-SWAMY: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a licence was granted to Messrs. Kalinga Tubes of Orissa to import about 10,000 tons of G. I. and W. I. pipes from the United Kingdom and other European countries;

(b) if so, at what rate per ton; and

(c) what was the price at which other importers were allowed to import such pipes?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNA-MACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

Rs. 1,624 per ton c.i.f. on the average.

(c) The price at which other importers imported pipes during the same period varied between Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 1,700 per ton c. i. f.

IRON AND STEEL DEALERS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

157. SHRI C. L. VARMA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no direct stockist of iron and steel in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to appoint any dealers who may have direct connections with the manufacturers, producers or wholesale dealers?

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

(a) No, Sir. There are at present four registered stockholders—one in each of the Districts Chamba, Mandi, Sirmur and Solan of Himachal Pradesh. They can deal direct with the producers.

(b) Does not arise.

158. *[Withdrawn.]*

SHOE FACTORIES IN INDIA

159. SHRI D. NARAYAN: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many shoe factories (with 100 workers or more in each) are there in India;

(b) what is their annual output of boots, chappals and shoes;

(c) how many of these factories are owned and managed by the-foreigners; and

(d) what is the annual production of boots, chappals and shoes of the Bata factories in the country?

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

(a) Twenty-three according to the information available with the Government.

6b) The output of these factories;

during 1952 was as follows:-No. of pairs
 Western type leather footwear 3,343-852
 Indian type leather footwear 1,803,302
 Rubber footwear 22,239,511

TOTAL 27,386,665

Figures regarding boots, chappals and shoes separately are not available.

(c) Four of these factories are entirely owned by foreigners while in another part of the investment is foreign.

(d) It is not considered desirable to divulge information regarding production of individual factories.

INDIAN MISSIONS ABROAD

160. SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of our foreign missions in (i) Asia; (ii) Europe; and (iii) the United States of America; and

(b) how many of the heads of such missions are officials and how many are non-officials?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) : (a) The number of diplomatic and consular posts is (i) Asia 40; (ii) Europe 12; and (iii) U. S. A. 4.

(b) Officials 39 (including one concurrently accredited to more than one country); non-officials 10 (including one concurrently accredited to more than one country; and vacant 5.

ABDUCTED GIRLS

161. SHRI D. NARAYAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report in the *Hindustan Times* of the 25th August 1953, that a large number of Hindu and Sikh abducted girls are being kept by certain officers of the Pakistan Armed Forces; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the officer in charge of the recovery work in India recently lodged a complaint or a protest with the Pakistan authorities and the Commander-in-Chief of the Pakistan Army against the illegal detention of abducted girls by Pakistan Army Officers; if so, with what result?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) : (a) The attention of Government has been drawn to this report. In ■, both India and Pakistan, it has sometimes been stated that officials and leading citizens have possessed, or are in possession of, abducted women. The -Central Recovery Offices in both countries have enquired into cases brought before them. They came to the conclusion that it was not possible to -make any definite statement about this matter till they have completed' an investigation of all the claims.

(b) No official protest has been made, but in the normal course, the Commanders-in-Chief of both India and.? Pakistan were requested by the respective Recovery Organisations For the search of those abducted persons who were alleged to be in the custody of any armed forces personnel.

EXPORT OF MICA

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

(a) whether any complaints have been received regarding the quality of ' our mica exports, if so, from which countries;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to remedy the defects; if so, what are these steps; and

(c) which other countries are competing with India in mica?

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

(a) and (b) India is by -far the largest exportet of mica. By"