

(b) if so—

(i) the languages in which such films have been prepared;

(ii) the number of copies thereof made; and

(ii!) where and by whom they were prepared?

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR): (a) Some scenes showing the Japanese system of paddy cultivation were included in the Indian News Review released on 27th February 1953. No regular documentary has yet been made.

(b) (i) Reviews are produced in English, Hindi, Telugu, Tamil and Bengali.

(ii) 102 copies of each are made.

(iii) The prints were taken by the Films Division of the Government of India on 12th February 1953 at Nav-sari (Bombay).

I may add, Sir, that it is proposed to have a regular documentary including methods of rice cultivation.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, in how many reels these films are prepared?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: I have replied '102' copies.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: What is the length of the film?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: I said, Sir, that there is no regular documentary of this thing that has yet been prepared but a very short, probably lasting for half a minute, was shown in our News Review. It is proposed now to have a documentary on the improved methods of rice cultivation.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY: Are not films prepared in Kannada language which is one of the most important languages of South India?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is your opinion.

*341. [Postponed to 23rd April 1953.]

*342 [The questioner (Shri D. Nam-yan) was absent]

BARTER AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION

*362. SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA: Will the Minister for Commerce and Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the offer made by the Soviet delegate at the Manila meeting of the Eionorric Commission for Asia and the Far East in February, 1953, that the Soviet Union was prepared to enter into a barter agreement with India for the exchange of machines with Indian rubber and copra; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) No, Sir, I understand that the Soviet delegate at the Trade Promotion Conference held in Manila, Mr. Kemensky, in a general statement mentioned that the Soviet Union could supply certain types of equipment as well as cement, timber, fertilizers, etc., in exchange for such supplies as they were prepared to purchase, and pointed out that the problem of balance of payment would be eased by the conclusion of barter arrangements. No specific offer was made to India and no discussion took place in the Conference on the statement made by the Soviet delegate.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: In view of the needs of our own industrialisation and of our multi-purpose schemes, do the Government propose to approach the Soviet Government to find out what kind of machinery etc. they would be able to give us?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, in respect of machinery and such other purchases, our requirements are generally circularised and we buy in the most favourable and cheapest markets. If the Soviet market appears -to be favourable to us, we shall certainly go there.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: The question is whether the Government is going to approach the Soviet Government to find out what kind of goods they would be able to supply and on what terms?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: I am asking what the Government is going to do. May we know whether they are going to approach the Soviet Government or not?

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Have they found out what the terms are on which the Soviet Government will be able to supply the machinery required?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The statement made at this Conference was of a general nature. The delegates of each country were requested to make general statements. I am quite sure the hon. Member will appreciate that this was not anything in the nature of a bilateral agreement. This was a Conference where the Soviet delegate also gave expression to his own views in the matter.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA: As the hon. Minister himself was present at the Conference

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: No, my hon. friend is wrong. I was present not at this Conference but at an earlier Conference. Some other delegates attended this Conference.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: The answer of the hon. Minister was that if the terms were favourable, they would be able to buy from Russia. My question was

whether they had found out that the terms were favourable or not.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: So far as Government purchases are concerned, Government always purchase from; wherever the terms are favourable. We have /not branded out Soviet Russia from our consideration. It is not a question of a particular item being there or not. Regarding private trade, as I had occasion to tell this House earlier, our licences are open for imports from all the countries including Soviet Russia. If any importer wants to import from Soviet Russia we do not stop him. During the last three years they have always been open.

SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN: Can the Soviet Government have showrooms of capital goods and machinery in this country?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think so. It is quite a legitimate activity. We would welcome that.

SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA: (*In Malayalam*) f[May I know, Sir, whether Government have noted newspaper reports of the offer made by the Soviet representative at the Manila Conference proposing to supply us with machinery in barter for rubber and copra?]

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR (*In Kanada*) t[I have not. If notice is given I will look into it.]

INDIANS IN BHUTAN

•363. SHRIMATI MAYA DEVI CHET-TRY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be* pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to cases of ill-treatment and injustice meted out to some Indian nationals in Bhutan, territory; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter in the-light of articles 7 of the Treaty of
tEnglish translation.