

SHRI E. K. IMBICHIBAVA:
(In Malayalam).

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: In view of the fact that he cannot understand English, he cannot put his questions in English and, is it not the responsibility of the House to make arrangements so that his questions may be properly understood by the Ministers who are expected to reply to them?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have given translations and they properly understand them and give the answers.

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The last question he asked was whether in view of the fact that a large number of local ships are not used the Officer had made any reports regarding those ships?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I should like to have notice for that, Sir.

TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND EXPORT

*441. SHRI D. NARAYAN: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the quantity of tobacco.

(i) consumed in India, and

(ii) exported to other countries, out of the total production during the period from 1950 to 1952?

THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH): (i) and (ii). Two statements giving the required information are laid on the Table of the House.

Statement I

(i): Consumption of raw tobacco within India.

1949-50 ... 208,000 tons.

1950-51 ... 219,000 tons.

1951-52 ... Not available at present.

Statement II

(ii): Quantity of tobacco exported from India.

Quantity exported

(a) by sea and air

(b) by land

(Tons) (Tons)

1949-50 (April to March) 39,000 4,000

1950-51 " " " 44,000 7,000

1951-52 " " " 47,000 8,000

Source for (i): Accounts relating to the Foreign Sea and Airborne Trade and Navigation of India published by the Deptt. of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta.

Source for (ii): Chief Controller of Imports and Exports.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: What was the production during those years?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have got the production figures. For the year 1949-50, it was 591.36 million lbs., in 1950-51 it was 589 million lbs. and for 1951-52, 504 million lbs.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: How much of land is under cultivation of tobacco?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I would like to have notice for that question, Sir.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: What are the approximate requirements of tobacco in India?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have no figures to show the requirements but the consumption is given here. I believe most of the requirements of the country are met, Sir.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: Is not tobacco imported from outside?

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: Only in the shape of cigarettes.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: That will have to be addressed to the Minister for Commerce and Industry.

SHRI B. M. GUPTA: How much tobacco is used in biri making and how much for chewing?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have no separate calculations.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: How much is used for cigars?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have no information.

SHRI D. D. ITALIA: May I know, Sir, if any quantity of tobacco is exported from India to outside?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That has been stated.

* DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Yes Sir. That has been stated.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the price for export?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Prices vary from time to time.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: For 1952?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have not got the figures.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Is the Government aware that other countries are processing potatoes in a particular manner before planting and using those leaves for blending with tobacco?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have no information.

SHRI M. P. N. SINHA: Is Bihar one of the main producers of tobacco?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: Sir, this question refers to consumption and export.

SHRI M. P. N. SINHA: Are Government aware that due to the conditions prevailing, the area under cultivation of tobacco has been considerably reduced in the State of Bihar during the last two years?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have not got the information here, Sir.

SHRI M. P. N. SINHA: Do Government know that on account of heavy duty people have given up cultivation of tobacco in the State of Bihar?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I submit, Sir, that it does not arise out of this and I am not expected to carry all these information.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: How much is exported by the I.L.T.D. Company?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a detail.

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I have not got the information.

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA: Are the Government aware that the *biri* and cigarette industries find it difficult to get tobacco?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: We have not had any complaints.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Has not the Government received representations from the biri makers all over the country drawing its attention to this matter?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: No, Sir.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: Do our Cigarette Factories use only Indian tobacco?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: A very large portion of the Indian tobacco is used, Sir.

SHRI D. NARAYAN: What percentage, Sir?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I could not say, Sir.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Does the hon. Minister use tobacco, Sir?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: In very small quantity, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, order.