

JUTE AND MESTA

*217. SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the minimum number of bales of jute and mesta required for our mills annually; and

(b) what is our present production of jute and mesta ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) 6 million bales of 400 lbs. each of jute are required on the basis of present working hours.

(b) Total production during 1951-52 was 4.68 million bales. Separate figures of production of mesta are not available.

SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR : What are the countries from which they are imported ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : From Pakistan and from Nepal—about 40,000 bales.

SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR : May I know whether there is any country outside India that manufactures hessian cloth ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : Yes, there are many other countries. In America they are using this for manufacturing purposes.

SHRI M. ROUFIQUE : Is it a fact that 45 bales out of every 100 are produced by the State of Assam ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I should like to have notice for separate figures for Assam.

PROGRAMMES FOR RURAL POPULATION

*218. SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR : (a) Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state from how many All India Radio Stations special programmes for rural population are arranged and broadcast ?

(b) How many farm-forum centres are there in different States ?

(c) Has any action been taken by Government to increase the number of these centres ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) Special programmes for the rural population are broadcast from all stations of All India Radio except Ahmedabad.

(b) Bombay—104

Madras—89

U. P.—17

Delhi—25

(c) Yes, Sir.

SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR : May I know from the hon. Minister whether these farm-forum centres for the Bombay State are increasing or decreasing ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I hope they are increasing.

SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR : Is it contemplated to produce cheap radio sets for rural population ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I understand that their production is under contemplation.

SHRI T. R. DEOGIRIKAR : Is it on account of the high cost of the sets that farm-forum centres are not increasing ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I think, it is both on account of the high cost of the radio sets and the high cost of materials.

MACHINERY FOR THE FORMULATION OF PLANS

*219. SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present machinery for the formulation of plans at State and Central levels ; and

(b) what is the present machinery for the execution of plans in the (i) public, and (ii) private sectors ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI) : (a) Plans relating to different aspects of the development are formulated at the Centre by the Ministries concerned and in the States by the departments concerned. In the Central Government proposals are considered by the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry before decisions are taken by the Government. In the States, as a rule, they are considered by a State Development Committee which consists of the Chief Secretary, Development Commissioner and other departmental Secretaries before they are approved by the State Cabinet. The plans of both the Central and the State Governments have now been brought together in the Five Year Plan.

(b) The responsibility for executing programmes in the public sector rests with Ministries in the Central Government and in the States with the individual departments. Programmes of industrial development in the private sector are necessarily the responsibility of the parties concerned, but these are considered and reviewed from time to time on behalf of the Government by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Am I to understand that the departments concerned both at the Centre and in the States are responsible for the formulation of the plans and that there are no agencies to assist them ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : Sir, it is the departments of the States and the Centre who formulate the plans.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Will the hon. Minister kindly state if he is aware that in the States, for example, in West Bengal, the development programme was drawn up in pre-partition days and has continued even today ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : I have no information on that point.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Will the hon. Minister kindly state if there has been any attempt made in formulating the plans at the State level particularly to ascertain the opinions of the public or other organizations which may be interested in such plans ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : Sir, in certain cases there are Development Committees in which there are also non-officials, for example, Bombay and Rajasthan. In Rajasthan there is a Development Committee and there are non-officials on that Committee. There are similar Committees in other States also where there are.....

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Did not the Government consider it necessary that in the matter of formulating a national plan they should not merely depend on the departmental officers who are drawn from the I. C. S., but that they should try to evolve a plan which would be national ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : It is not only the departments who are formulating the plan, but it comes to the Cabinet and the Ministers have a hand in formulating the plan.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Did the Central Government issue any instructions to the State Governments in this as to how they should formulate the plan and what should be the procedure in formulating the plans ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : So far as I know, the Central Government had recommended to the State Governments to invite public opinion and to consult public bodies on the various aspects of Planning as far as possible.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : May I know if any specific instructions had been issued, and if so, what are they ?

(No answer.)

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Had they invited public bodies and political opinion ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : I should like to have notice.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : May I know whether the Government are aware that in Madras in each district, there are Planning Committees in which all Members of Parliament are not members of the Committees ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has given the information.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : With regard to the answer to part (b), am I to understand that it is the separate departments of the Government that are responsible for the execution of the plan and that there is no one single organization or committee which oversees the whole plan ?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI : I may say, at present, it is the department concerned that looks to execution of the plans. It is for the Government to see that these individual departments looking after the implementation of the plans would be conducive to the execution of the plan in its all-round aspects. Finally, it will be the Planning Commission that will be in over-all charge in seeing that the plan is implemented properly.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : What would be the relation between the Planning Commission and the individual Departments which will be entrusted with the execution of the plan ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : The relation will be this. The execution will be by the Ministries and over-all supervision by the Planning Commission.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Am I to understand that the individual Ministries will be subject to the instructions or dictates of the Planning Commission ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : The whole thing goes by way of co-ordination.

SHRI H. D. RAJAH : In view of the fact that the Planning Commission has produced a voluminous report called the 'National Planning', will the Government think it necessary that the opinion of the Parliament.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question 220.

AGREEMENTS FOR THE PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

*220. SHRI B. C. GHOSE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what are the agreements made between or joint declarations made by the Governments of India and Pakistan since the partition for the protection of minorities in the respective countries.

(b) whether there have been any breaches on the part of Pakistan of such agreements and declarations ;

(c) if the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative the measures adopted by the Government of India to deal with such breaches and to assure a sense of security to the minorities in Pakistan ; and

(d) the reason why the Minority Ministers of India and Pakistan undertook a joint tour of certain areas in West Bengal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA) : (a) There are a large number of agreements and statements made by or on behalf of the Governments of India and Pakistan. The principal agreements are :

(i) the Inter-Dominion Agreement of December 1948 ; and

(ii) the Prime Minister's Agreement of April 1950.

(b) and (c). There have been numerous breaches on the part of Pakistan. Certain procedure have been laid to consider complaints of breaches on either side. In certain matters this procedure has led to the redress of minor grievances. On the whole, however, the Pakistan Government's response has been unsatisfactory.