

## INDIANS ARRESTED IN SOUTH AFRICA

\*394. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons of Indian origin who have been arrested and sentenced so far in connection with the campaign against Apartheid in South Africa;

(b) whether reports of inhuman treatment having been meted out to them have been received by Government; and

(c) in how many cases persons arrested have been punished with whipping?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) Separate figures showing the number of persons of Indian origin arrested in the passive resistance campaign in South Africa, are not available. The total number of non-European volunteers reported arrested so far is over 7,000.

(b) Reports of severe sentences and harsh treatment meted out to passive resisters, police excesses and intimidation have been received.

(c) No information about the number of persons punished with whipping has been received.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know under what laws these *satyagrahis* are being punished?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** The laws generally operating are what are known as the Apartheid Policy of the South African Government.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know the number of persons of Indian origin who have fallen a victim to the shooting order?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Not any, our information.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, whether any monetary help has so far been sent from India to these sufferers?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Officially we have sent no money.

**Shri Syammandan Sahaya:** May I know whether Government has made any effort to find out in what way Indians have suffered in these troubles that are going on in South Africa?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Quite a large number of Indians have been arrested and convicted. So far as shooting is concerned, we have no information about Indians being shot at.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether Government have received any suggestion to send a non-official or official delegation to South Africa of prominent Indian citizens?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** We have no such intention.

**Shri Velayudhan:** I want to know whether Government have received any suggestion?

**Mr. Speaker:** This matter cannot be carried on any further. It is under the control of a foreign independent Government.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** Are the Government aware that there is a certain section in South Africa itself which is against Apartheid and whether those people are participating in the movement and if so, how many?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** We are aware of that fact, Sir, but we have not got figures of the various sections of the population there.

## COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY (WORKING PARTY REPORT)

\*395. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Party for Cotton Textile Industry has finished its work and submitted its report;

(b) what are the important recommendations made by the Party; and

(c) whether any action has been taken on the recommendation of the Party to reduce the cost of production?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The report is a voluminous one and is now being printed. It is proposed to publish the report. The recommendations made by the Working Party are being examined by Government, and necessary action thereon will be taken after Government have come to definite decisions.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, when the report was received by the Government?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I believe about 4 months ago.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir, what are the reasons for the delay in the printing of this report in view of the fact that the Committee was appointed in June, 1950, and why the report was submitted late?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The delay is due entirely to physical conditions. I think the Press will take some time to print these reports.

#### DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN OTTAWA

\*396. **Shri Nambiar:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the accounts of expenditure of our Diplomatic Mission in Ottawa are audited?

(b) If so, do Government propose to place on the Table of the House a copy of the latest audit report pertaining to the High Commissioner's Office at Ottawa?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) Yes.

(b) There is no separate audit report on the High Commission at Ottawa. The High Commissioner for India in Canada submits monthly accounts of his expenditure to the Accountant General, Central Revenues, for current audit. In addition, a local audit is conducted periodically.

The Auditor General's Annual report is printed along with the Appropriation Accounts of the Government of India and is presented to Parliament.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know the amount spent in meeting the medical bill relating to Embassy staff there?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** No information is available with me.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether it is a fact that the High Commissioner has got his own sister as a patient in the Ottawa T. B. Hospital?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri Nambiar:** The treatment is being given to the sister in the name of a domestic servant.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the basis for that information?

**Shri Nambiar:** I want to know that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. It is very wrong to put a question of that type and create an impression that something is done by the officials there. He should find out the truth about it. Did he enquire from the Minister?

**Shri Nambiar:** I have got information, Sir.

May I know whether there is any local arrangement to audit the monthly bills by the Government of India there?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Yes. Formerly an Audit Officer from the High Commissioner's office in London used to audit monthly accounts of the High Commissioner's office in Ottawa. At present an officer is recruited from the Audit Office of the Washington Embassy to audit the accounts.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether any discrepancy was found out when this audit was being done? Any treatment to.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

#### COAL (EXPORT)

\*400. **Shri V. P. Nayyar:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the quantity of coal exported from India to the various countries in 1951 and from 1st January, 1952 to 15th October, 1952; and

(b) whether Government exercise any control over the export of coal from India and if so, what is the nature of such control?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 43].

(b) Yes. The export of coal is in the form of State Trading intended to absorb differences between external prices and Indian controlled prices to the exchequer. The established exporting firms act as agents of the Government of India. These firms have to obtain the prior approval of the Coal Commissioner before negotiating for orders, specifying the quality, quantity etc. of the coal. The Coal Commissioner has the discretion to accept or reject the offer for export taking into consideration the internal transport position and adverse effects, if any, on internal supplies. The price is also subject to the Coal Commissioner's approval, which is granted after it is verified that the controlled price will be paid to the Colliery concerned, and the surplus credited to Government as a surcharge. A release permit is issued by the Coal Commissioner after he is satisfied that the necessary formalities have been completed and a letter of credit opened.