

Pradesh raw hides are buried unused? If so, what steps are being taken by Government to avoid this wastage, which leads to the import of a large quantity of leather goods of daily use?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The range of my information is much more limited than that of the hon. Member. I can take the information of the hon. Member.

**Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** May I know, Sir, what are the actual practical steps which have hitherto been taken to help khadi industry?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** At the moment it is raw hide and not khadi.

#### AUSTRALIAN PRESS DELEGATION

\*1955. **Shri Ganpati Ram:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Australian Press Delegation arrived in India at the invitation of the Government of India;

(b) the purpose and personnel of the Delegation;

(c) the expenditure, if any, met by the Government of India; and

(d) whether such other delegations have been invited from other foreign countries and if so, from where?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) Yes.

(b) The visit was to enable responsible pressmen from Australia to acquaint themselves first-hand with the conditions prevailing in India, and help to improve Indo-Australian understanding.

The Delegation was composed of:

(i) Mr. J. Goodge of the "Sun", Sydney.

(ii) Mr. Guy Harriott of the "Sydney Morning Herald", Sydney.

(iii) Mr. Maurice Simpson of the "West Australian", Perth.

(iv) Dr. Peter Russo of the "Argus", Melbourne.

(v) Mr. Douglas Wilkie of the "Sun News-Pictorial", Melbourne.

(c) The entire expenditure of the visit.

(d) Yes. During the last three years, press delegations from Burma, Turkey and Iran were invited.

#### ROAD CONSTRUCTION TO ALIPORE VILLAGE

\*1956. **Shri Ganpati Ram:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that road construction to Alipore village in Delhi State started by the Prime Minister was completed with a cut down estimate of P.W.D. by one third;

(b) the length of the road and expenditure incurred as against the estimated cost; and

(c) whether such experiments are being made in the construction of other roads under the Community project in the State?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) Yes.

(b) The length of the road is 1933 ft. The expenditure incurred is Rs. 7,600/- against the normal P.W.D. estimate of Rs. 11,000/-

(c) Yes.

**श्री गणपति राम :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस तरह के और भी ऐक्सपैरीमेंट्स दूसरी स्टेट्स में किए गए हैं और वे ऐक्सपैरीमेंट्स कुछ सही निकले हैं ?

**श्री हाथी :** हां, जी, दूसरी स्टेट्स में भी ऐक्सपैरीमेंट किए गए हैं और सही निकले हैं ।

#### KOSI CONTROL SCHEME

\*1957. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state with reference to the reply to starred question No. 225 given on the 20th February, 1953, whether the present work of the Kosi Control Scheme is going on in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Kosi Advisory Committee?

(b) If so, when is construction of the western earthen embankment as suggested by the said committee, to be taken up?

(c) What is the amount of money sanctioned for the Kosi Control Scheme in the year 1953-54?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction work can be taken up only after the Project is sanctioned.

(c) No amount has been sanctioned so far as the Project Estimate is not yet ready.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether the design of the Belka dam has been finalised and what is its estimated cost?

**Shri Hathi:** The design of the Belka dam is likely to be completed by the end of May 1953. The estimates could be prepared after the designs are ready.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether it is a fact that the American expert, Mr. Savage, is to be invited to examine the design of the Belka dam?

**Shri Hathi:** No, Sir, I have no information at present that he has been invited.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether Government have any idea when the actual work of the construction of the dam or the excavation of the canal is to be taken up?

**Shri Hathi:** That will depend after the project estimates are ready.

#### REPORT OF JUTE MILLS' DELEGATION IN BIHAR

\*1958. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 224 asked on the 20th February, 1953 regarding Jute Mills' Delegation in Bihar and state what action Government propose to take on the Report submitted by the said Delegation?

(b) Is it a fact that the jute growers and dealers of Bihar along with the Bihar Press had protested against the manner of enquiry conducted by the said Delegation and had demanded a fresh examination of their case?

(c) If so, what are the steps taken thereon?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) to (c). The Report has been examined in consultation with the Government of Bihar and the Ministry of Railways. The questions at issue were mainly of production and transport of Bihar jute. The Railway administration were able by large scale movement of empty wagons and running of special trains under special arrangements to move over 50 per cent. of jute lying in Bihar by the end of February 1953 and hope to clear the entire stock by the end of

August when the new crop is expected.

As regards the other questions namely improving the outturn of Bihar jute, provision of better retting facilities etc., Government is awaiting the report of the Committee on better production of jute recently appointed by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know, Sir, whether representations have been made to Government that the quality and output of jute in the Purnea and North-East part of Sahasra districts are not as bad as reported by the said Delegation?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Whenever somebody says the quality is not good, there are other people equally anxious to say that the quality is good. The matter has to be decided on the merits of each case. The fact really is that some parts of Bihar do produce jute which is not of high quality. It may be that the Purnea quality is good quality; it is known that the Purnea quality is good.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** Do Government propose to get the whole question of the quality and output of Bihar jute examined thoroughly through its own machinery just to ascertain the truth?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have mentioned in my answer that the Food and Agriculture Ministry has appointed a Committee to go into the production of jute. The terms of reference of that committee include the question of improvement of quality. We would like to await the report of that committee before thinking of taking any other action.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Is there any reason to suspect that the I.J.M.A. has been discriminating against Bihar jute?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I cannot see how there can be any basis for a suspicion of that nature. I do not think the Bengal people are the near-cousins of the I.J.M.A. and the Bihar people are not even related.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know whether Government had invited expert opinion with regard to the quality of the jutes?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The hon. Member probably has not seen jute produced in this area. If she has she would understand that no expert opinion is necessary. The trade knows what the quality is.