

eral shortage of *Dhoties* nor a surfeit of long cloth. But it is a fact that prices of *Dhoties* have generally risen.

SABARMATI PROJECT

*14. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether the plans and estimates have been prepared for Sabarmati River Project?

(b) If so, what is the estimated expenditure?

(c) When will the Project be completed?

(d) What will be the total acreage under cultivation under the Project?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). The project report and estimates are under preparation.

(c) The project can be taken up for construction only after it has been finally approved for execution. It is, therefore, not possible at this stage to say when it will be completed.

(d) The estimated annual irrigation will be as follows:—

(i) Flow irrigation by canals.. 1,44,500 acres.

(ii) Lift irrigation by tube-wells from power developed by the project... 1,82,000 acres.

INDIAN FILMS SENT TO CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

*15. **Shri Chattopadhyaya:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the names of Indian Films that were sent to Cannes International Film Festival held in April, 1953?

(b) What was the criterion adopted in selecting these films?

(c) Had the Government any voice in the selection of these films?

(d) How were Indian films rated in the Festival?

(e) What were the criticism and appreciation of each film?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) In long films section: "Awara".

In short films section: "Kumaon Hills", "The Great Experiment" and "New Lands for old".

(b) Technical, aesthetic and cultural aspects were kept in view while selecting films.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No Indian film won any award.

(e) "Awara" had a mixed reception. Some French papers criticised it as a mixture of the various clichés of Western movies and deplored its failure to reflect India's culture and some others regarded it as not without some charm but just bearable. The Government of India documentaries received a better response than the private feature film.

PRODUCTION OF TEA

*16. **Shri Gopala Rao:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the decision adopted by the tea planters to restrict the production of tea to 570 million lbs. only; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes Sir. A section of tea producers had agreed to a scheme for restriction of tea crop for 1953 only. Tea production during this year was under the scheme estimated to be 570 million lbs. But according to latest estimates, the production is expected to be about 606 million lbs.

(b) As the voluntary crop restriction scheme is not intended to create any shortage in the supply of tea inside or outside India, but only to ensure that supply is kept in reasonable relationship to demand, so that there may not be any large surplus of tea in the markets, it is not considered necessary to take any action in the matter.