

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ALL INDIA RADIO

***637. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 161 asked on 19th February, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the list of anniversaries to be celebrated by the All India Radio has now been prepared; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the list will be placed on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). A list of anniversaries has been drawn up. A copy of it is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 37.] Supplementary lists of religious anniversaries and festivals for Muslims are being drawn up; and the list of cultural anniversaries will be expanded by adding the anniversaries of musical celebrities.

In addition to these anniversaries, there are others of purely local or regional interest which Stations are observing subject to the importance of the person, strength of local sentiment and effective programme excellence of the broadcast.

LABOUR BANKS

***641. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 1520 asked on the 22nd April, 1953 and state:

(a) whether the experiments which the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi started for the formation of labour banks for full utilisation of all the resources by capitalisation of man-power have been examined by Government; and

(b) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir, since the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi has

not proceeded with its experiments at any of the Centres selected except Bhilwada in Rajasthan, where only some work of a preliminary nature has been done.

(b) Does not arise.

PEPPER

***648. Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S.S.R. which desires to import pepper in large quantities has not been permitted the requisite exchange facilities by Scheduled Banks in India; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that as a result thereof U.S.A. is the only field for export of pepper?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Payments for trade with the U.S.S.R. are made in rupees out of the accounts maintained by the State Bank of that country with the commercial banks in India, dealing with foreign exchange. As such, the question of scheduled banks in India permitting requisite exchange facilities to the U.S.S.R., does not arise.

गोमांस (निर्यात)

***649. श्री विभूति मिश्र :** क्या वाचिक्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत से कोरिया को गोमांस का निर्यात किया जाता है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस के निर्यात पर गोक लगाने का विचार करती है?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Export of beef has been banned since 11th May 1954, except as ship stores. Exports at