

**RAJGHAT SAMADHI**

\*464. **Prof. Agarwal:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred so far on the Rajghat Samadhi; and

(b) further expenditure that is likely to be incurred during the current year?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) The total non-recurring expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 5,79,467. In addition, expenditure on maintenance, amounting to Rs. 84,443 has also been incurred upto the end of March 1952.

(b) Further expenditure amounting to about Rs. 65,000, on maintenance, is likely to be incurred during the current financial year.

प्र० अग्रवाल: क्या यह सही है कि गांधी समाधी के आस पास जो जमीन है वह गांधी स्मारक निधि को दे दी गई है ?

[**Prof. Agarwal:** Is it a fact that the land lying nearabout Gandhi Samadhi has been transferred to the Gandhi Memorial Fund?]

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Not to my knowledge. Sir, I have not got information on that point.

**Shri Namdhari:** In view of the secular teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and the miraculous spiritual effect of his prayers resulting in national freedom, may I know whether Government will consider constructing on the four corners of Rajghat grounds a Gurdwara, a Temple, a Mosque and a Church.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member is making a suggestion for action. It is not permissible.

**Shri Namdhari:** No, Sir. It is a question.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is his question?

**Shri Namdhari:** .....to facilitate and encourage a prayer movement according to the respective faiths thus making Rajghat a world spiritual centre?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I cannot allow that.

**Shri Datar:** May I know the total amount Government propose to spend on this?

**Mr. Speaker:** The question on khadi is over. Next question.

**Shri Datar:** I asked the question with regard to Gandhi Samadhi.

**AFRICAN COTTON**

\*467. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what quantity of African Cotton has been purchased by the Government of India for distribution to the textile mills in India?

(b) At what prices was the contract for African cotton entered into and is it a fact that the contract rate was Rs. 2,300 per khandi?

(c) What was the rate of the contract and what was the quantity purchased?

(d) Is it a fact that there was a precipitate fall in the prices of African cotton very soon after and the price touched Rs. 1,600 per khandi?

(e) What was lowest level of prices reached and on what date?

(f) Is it a fact that the Indian textile mills are unwilling to purchase this cotton?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Approximately 1,60,000 bales.

(b) Rs. 2,405 for B. P. 52 variety of East African cotton per candy Bombay Godown Delivery.

(c) The information is given in answer to parts (a) and (b) of the question.

(d) There was a fall in price about a month later.

(e) Rs. 1,566 per candy in terms of Bombay Godown delivery on 18th April, 1952.

(f) No.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** May I know what are the reactions of the mill owners so far as this cotton is concerned?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I am afraid I cannot give an answer. I do not think I can study their reactions and say accurately.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Is it a fact that owing to this reduction in prices this cotton is not being lifted by the mill owners, that they are very reluctant to take it?