

(b) What was the strength of the staff of the Directorate General of Disposals during 1947-1948 and during 1951-52?

(c) What was the approximate value of the surplus stores at the beginning of 1947-48?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The book value of all surplus stores available for disposal with the Disposals Organisation as on 30th April, 1952 was Rs. 37½ crores approximately. It is expected that bulk of these stores will be disposed of by the end of this financial year.

(b) A statement showing the position of staff of the Disposals Wing of the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals as on 1st March, 1947, 29th February, 1948, 1st March, 1951 and 29th February, 1952 is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 47.]

(c) The value of all surplus stores available for disposal as on 1st April, 1947 was Rs. 200 crores approximately.

TEXTILE PRICES (FIXATION)

***600. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the Textile Commissioner, Government of India is assisted by any Committee or Committees in the fixation of the prices of textile goods?

(b) If so, what is the composition of these?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

INDIAN LABOUR TO MALAYA

***601. Shri M. R. Krishna:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Malaya is in need of Indian labour?

(b) If so, what are the conditions under which Indian labour is given?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes.

(b) Emigration from India is governed by the Indian Emigration Act. The emigration of unskilled workers to Malaya is banned at present, while skilled workers are allowed to emigrate at the discretion of the Emigration authorities in India if the terms and conditions of service are reasonable.

NEWSPRINT AND PRINTING PAPER

***602. Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what are the materials used in India for preparation of paper-pulp?

(b) Is it a fact that the fibrous residue of sugar-cane can be used as such raw material?

(c) What are the requirements and present production in India of newsprint and printing paper?

(d) What steps are being taken to make the country independent of import in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Important basic raw materials are bamboo, sabai grass, rags, waste paper, wood pulp, hemp and old hemp rope cuttings, jute and hessian cuttings.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c)	Estimated Production requirements in 1951	
	(Tons)	(Tons)
(i) Newsprint ...	60,000	Nil
(ii) Printing and Writing paper.	100,000	79,263

(d) Every facility is being given to the parties concerned in creating additional capacity by setting up new units or by expanding the existing mills.

SINDRI FERTILIZER FACTORY

***603. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of the total capital invested by the Government of India so far in the construction and working of the Sindri Fertilizer Factory;

(b) what is the maximum productive capacity of this factory;

(c) what chemical fertilizers are being manufactured at present and what are the future prospects;

(d) At what price the chemical fertilizers produced by the factory are being sold in the market and how this compares with the imported fertilizers from outside;

(e) whether there are any other factories in India engaged in manufacturing fertilizers. If so, what is their productive capacity and what has been that actual value and quantity of the different varieties of fertilizers produced by these factories during the year 1950-51; and