

come up before this House. In fact, I am taking that up with the hon. Speaker.

CLOTH DISTRIBUTION IN CHANDMARI CAMP

***17. Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the displaced persons of the Chandmari Camp were given one piece of *dhoti* or *saree* some time in May, 1951 per head for those not below the age of eighteen and one half pant or *frock* per head for those not above the age of twelve;

(b) whether it is a fact that nothing was given to the displaced persons between twelve to eighteen years age-group;

(c) whether it is a fact that only in March, 1952, one piece of *dhoti* or *saree* has been given per family; and

(d) if so, whether this is according to the Government scale of clothes to be supplied to the displaced persons in the Camp?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The administration of the camp is the concern of the West Bengal Government who have been requested to furnish detailed information on the subject. The information when received, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know by what time we can expect the information?

Shri A. P. Jain: As soon as it arrives.

JUTE GOODS

***18. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that certain amount of foreign orders for jute goods were diverted to European countries during recent months?

(b) What were the grounds for such diversion and have steps been taken to prevent it?

(c) What is the amount of loss that India suffered on this account?

(d) How far is our export duty responsible for this diversion?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes.

(b) and (d). The Continental manufacturers were able to quote below

Calcutta prices. The recent readjustment of export duties is expected to place Indian goods in a competitive position.

(c) It is not possible to calculate the loss as the total quantity for which orders have been placed on Continental countries is not known.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether the duty has been reduced and what the effect of the reduction is?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: With effect from 7th May, 1952, the export duty on hessian was reduced from Rs. 750 to Rs. 275 per ton. It is a very substantial reduction. I may also mention to the hon. Member that the price differential operating in favour of continental hessian during the period preceding the reduction of duty is somewhere about 160 to 170 rupees. We therefore anticipate that there will be no future diversion if the present conditions continue.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know to what European countries the orders were diverted?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: An estimate is being made about the total amount of diversion, because the bulk of the orders have been placed by the U.S.A. Corps of Engineers who accepted the bids for certain quantities of Burlaps, but I cannot give the information country-wise.

Shri B. K. Das: Arising out of part (b) of the question, may I know whether the quality of the jute goods supplied by India is one of the reasons for this diversion?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Not that I am aware of.

JUTE SUPPLIES BY PAKISTAN

***19. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has completed her entire commitment in respect of supply of jute under the Indo-Pakistan trade agreement;

(b) what is the amount so far received in India; and

(c) what about the balance?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Not yet. The period of Agreement is up to 30th June 1952.

(b) and (c). 21.05 lakh bales had been received up to 7th May 1952, but