

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The value of mica and shellac exported from India in 1951-52 was Rs. 1321 lakhs and Rs. 1130 lakhs, respectively.

(b) The principal importers of mica are U.K., U.S.A., France, Western Germany, Italy, Japan and Australia; and of shellac, U.S.A., U.K., U.S.S.R., Western Germany, France, Italy, Canada, Brazil, Argentina and Australia. Mica is mainly used by electrical industries and shellac is used in the production of Gramophone records, electrical insulating material, varnishes and adhesives, sealing wax, grinding wheels etc.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: What is the value of the imports of articles made out of these raw materials?

Shri Karmarkar: The hon. Member may put a separate question for that.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Are any of these articles imported from abroad made here in our country?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice. Gramophone records are made here.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it a fact that the export of shellac and also of mica is progressively going down, and that foreign countries are making arrangements for synthetic products to replace them?

Shri Karmarkar: Our figures show, Sir, that the exports are in fact progressively going up. For instance in 1949/50, so far as Mica is concerned, it was about Rs. 7 lakhs, and now it is Rs. 13.20 lakhs; and in shellac also, our exports were about Rs. 30 lakhs and now they are about Rs. 91 lakhs.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it due, Sir, to the price going up or is it due to larger quantities being exported?

Shri Karmarkar: It is due to both the quantity and the price going up.

Shri Punnose: May I know the States which chiefly produce these articles, mica and shellac?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

#### INDIAN CULTURAL DELEGATION TO CHINA

\*1326. Shri K. G. Deshmukh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the expenses incurred by the Government of India on Indian Cultural Delegation to China in May, 1952?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The details of expenditure incurred on behalf of the delegation by the Embassy of India, Peking, and the Indian Consulate General, Shanghai, and some other bills have not yet been received. It is not possible, therefore, to give the exact amount. However the total expenses are expected to be well within Rs. 1½ lakhs.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know what is the response we got in proportion to the expenditure incurred?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If I may say so, Sir, it is a very extraordinary question but I may say this, that they were treated with the utmost cordiality and friendship.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether this delegation is reported to have submitted any report to the Government of India?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: All delegations which go there are supposed to submit some kind of report. But usually these reports are not published.

Shri Punnose: Has it come to the notice of the Government that a certain section of the Foreign Press has attributed views to the leader of the delegation contrary to those expressed in this country by her?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know to which particular thing the hon. Member refers. But perhaps I may draw the attention of the House to the fact that a certain contradiction was made by the leader of the delegation to certain statements made in the Press in regard to that matter.

#### PRICE OF JUTE

\*1327. Shri M. Islamuddin: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the price of jute per maund before the control was lifted in March, 1951;

(b) the price immediately after the control was lifted; and

(c) the price at present?

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

(a) Rs. 35 per maund on the basis of bottom variety for delivery free at mills in Calcutta.

(b) Rs. 65 per maund on 12th March 1951.

(c) Rs. 27 per maund was the quotation for Assam bottoms on 26th June 1952.

Shri M. Islamuddin: May I know the reasons for the decrease in price?