

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** That was about 25th August 1949.

**Shri Gidwani:** How long is it proposed to wait?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** In the meanwhile there have been counter-proposals which we have not accepted. Then there have been our old proposals on which we have not got replies, so far.

#### RADIO LICENCE SCREENING

\*973. **Dr. Ram Subbag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state when was the radio-licence screening done last?

(b) How many persons have been found in the country using their radio sets without licences?

(c) Have Government taken any action against those who were not having radio licences?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Screening is done throughout the year by the special anti-piracy staff employed to check the unauthorised use of Broadcast Receivers.

(b) During the last ten months January to October, 1952, 1,87,106 persons were found using their sets without licences.

(c) Yes.

**Dr. Ram Subbag Singh:** May I know Sir, whether a licence covers more than one receiving set of a person or family, if all those sets are located in a single premise?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** In one building it generally covers, the same may be said of commercial broadcasting receivers or community receivers.

**Shri Bogawat:** How many persons have so far been prosecuted or penalised?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The number of prosecutions launched is 283.

**Shri Raghavachari:** May I know the number of licences issued as against the number of sets imported into the country?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I learn on good authority that sets as such are not imported now.

#### RICE (LOANS)

\*974. **Dr. Ram Subbag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rice has been given as loans to some neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, to which country or countries such loans have been given;

(c) the total quantity of rice given as loans; and

(d) when these loans are likely to be returned?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnaappa):**

(a) Yes.

(b) Ceylon.

(c) 15,000 tons.

(d) In March, 1953.

**Dr. Ram Subbag Singh:** When was the rice made available to Ceylon?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** 7,500 tons was given in the month of September and another 7,500 tons was given last month.

**Dr. Ram Subbag Singh:** Has any other Government approached the Government of India for rice?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** About three months back the Government of Nepal asked us for some rice. By the time we were able to give it to them their internal position improved.

**Shri P. T. Chacko:** May I know, Sir, whether the Government knew at the time the loan was made to Ceylon that in some of the Southern States the ration per head was only about 5 ounces?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** Yes, Sir. Our food situation was far from satisfactory at that time. But in view of the consideration of good neighbourly relationship and the fact that Ceylon had loaned us about 10,000 tons of rice in 1950 when we were in dire need of rice in South India, we agreed to give them 15,000 tons. They had asked for 40,000 tons but we agreed to give them only 15,000 tons.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** May I know, whether any standard quality is fixed for the rice that is loaned and the rice that will be received back?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** We insist on the return of the same quality and delivery at the port from which we supplied it.

**Shrimati Tarakshwari Sinha:** May I know whether the rice was Indian-grown rice or foreign imported rice that was sent to Ceylon?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** The rice we loaned them was got by us from Burma.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** Was the rice loaned because of the recommendation of any international organisation, or body or because of the friendly relations existing between India and Ceylon?