

tion lands on account of the Damodar Valley Projects;

(b) whether Government have any scheme to provide these people with facilities for organising cottage industries with electricity which is now available there; and

(c) whether Government have decided to supply electricity in this area at a cheap rate?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) About 60,000 persons would be affected by the Damodar Valley Project.

(b) Under the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948, the overall development of the Damodar Valley, is the responsibility of the D.V.C. The Corporation have not yet formulated any scheme for organising cottage industries in the Damodar Valley area.

(c) Under the D.V.C. Act, 1948, the Corporation cannot undertake supply of electricity at pressures of less than 30,000 volts without the permission of the State Government concerned. The detailed distribution of electricity is a matter for the State Governments concerned.

#### ISSUE OF ADVERTISEMENTS

**1454. Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the policy and procedure adopted by the Central Government in giving advertisements to newspapers;

(b) whether the resolutions passed by the Standing Committee of the AINEC have come to the notice of Government; and

(c) if so, what action was taken by Government?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) The policy regarding giving advertisements to newspapers is under consideration of Government.

(b) and (c). Government have not received a copy of resolutions passed by the Standing Committee of the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference but have seen reports published in the Press.

#### ARECANUT EXPORTS TO MALAYA

**1455. Shri Muniswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that arecanut dealers in Malaya have asked the Indian Government to increase the present arecanut quota?

148 PSD.

(b) If so, what action was taken by the Government of India?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) No such representation has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

#### MANDI SALT MINES

**1456. Shri Hem Raj:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether the core drilling and thermo compression evaporator schemes have been put into operation in the Mandi Rock Salt Mines?

(b) If so, from what date?

(c) How much salt is expected to be obtained yearly by these methods?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) Core drilling operations in Mandi Salt Mines are now in progress. The installation of Thermo Compression Evaporators will depend on the results of the core drilling.

(b) The drilling programme was started on the 4th December, 1952.

(c) About 66,000 tons yearly.

#### SALT PRICES

**1457. Shri Hem Raj:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the manner of fixation of prices of salt produced in different parts in India?

(b) What is the prevailing price of the Mandi-Rock Salt as compared with salt produced in other parts of India?

(c) How is it computed and fixed for purposes of sale?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) The manner of fixing the price of salt varies with the States in which it is produced. In Government factories the price is fixed after taking into consideration the cost of production and the general principle is no-loss no-profit basis. In the case of private salt factories, some State Governments, viz Madras and Orissa have fixed ceiling ex-factory prices in their areas by the issue of orders under the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946 on the basis of cost of production plus some margin of profit. In other States viz. Bombay, Saurashtra, Kutch, Travancore-Cochin and West Bengal, the prices are neither fixed nor controlled by the Government.

(b) A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of

the House. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 69.]

(c) The price of Mandi rock salt continues at the rate of Rs. 2 per maund fixed by the Himachal Pradesh State Government before the financial integration of the State with effect from 1st April, 1950.

#### DUTY ON SALT

1458. **Shri Raghavaiah:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether any suggestions have been made through official or non-official channels for the exemption of levy of duty on salt produced by Co-operative Societies?

(b) If so, from whom and with what results?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) No, no such suggestion has been made. In any event, it is presumed the hon. Member means 'Cess' and not 'Duty', as duty on salt was abolished with effect from the 1st April, 1947.

(b) Does not arise.

#### SHELLAC AND LAC (EXPORT)

1459. **Shri Punnoose:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity with valuation of the annual export, country-wise, of shellac, stick lac and seed lac separately during 1949-50, 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53; and

(b) the names of firms in India which export shellac, stick lac and seed lac?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 70.]

(b) Hon. Member's attention is drawn to pages 12 to 17 in the Directory of Exporters of Indian Produce and Manufactures Part VIII published by the Manager of Publications, New Delhi, which contains the required information.

#### भारतीय सिपाही का पाकिस्तानियों के हाथों बच

१४६०. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : (क)

प्रधान मंत्री बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह सच है कि २३ अप्रैल, १९५३, को एक भारतीय सिपाही, श्री साधू सिंह को जब

कि वह सीमा पर गश्त कर रहा था, पाकिस्तानी सिपाहियों ने गोली से मार दिया और पोस्टमार्टम करके उसकी लाश लाहौर में गाड़ दी ?

(ख) भारत सरकार ने इस मामले में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) and (b). According to information available, Foot Constable Sadhu Singh of the Punjab Armed Police lost his way while proceeding from village Sankatra to his post at Kalas, Amritsar District on the night of the 23rd April 1953. He appears to have entered Pakistani territory by mistake and to have been shot dead by the Pakistan Border Police. The Punjab (I) Police have protested to the Pakistan Border Police and have asked for the return of his body. A detailed report from the Punjab (I) Government is awaited.

#### IMPORT OF D. D. T.

1460-A. **Shri P. C. Bose:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of D.D.T. annually imported by India;

(b) the names of the countries from where it is imported;

(c) the rate of price at which it is imported; and

(d) the international rate of prices of the commodity?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) About 550 tons in 1950-51, 233 tons in 1951-52 and 700 tons in 1952-53.

(b) D.D.T. is at present imported mainly from the U.S.A., although small quantities are also imported from the U.K., Switzerland and other soft currency areas.

(c) The c.i.f. price ranges from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2/8/- per lb.

(d) So far as Government are aware, there is no internationally fixed price for D.D.T.

#### GAS UNDER STORES GODOWNS AT BERMO COAL FIELDS.

1460-B. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether gas has developed below the stores godowns of the late I.M.C.C. at Bermo coal fields?