

(c) What is the tonnage of the export of coal registered in April, May and June, 1953?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes, the Government have abolished the additional (commercial) charge on exports of coal.

(b) This has not so far resulted in an increase in the demand from overseas countries which depends also on other factors.

(c) The exports to countries other than Pakistan during the months of April, May and June 1953 were 95,640 tons, 1,45,797 tons and 1,06,895 tons, respectively. The exports to Pakistan during the same period were as follows—

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| April | 61,627 tons |
| May | 79,200 tons |
| June | 62,500 tons |

(Approximately)

CARD-BOARD FROM GROUNDNUT AND SUGAR CANE WASTE

***222. Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a successful experiment was made for manufacturing card-boards from the waste of groundnuts and sugar-cane?

(b) Have Government established or propose to establish any card-board factory on the basis of the above experiment?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Sugar-cane waste (bagasse) is already being used for the manufacture of card-board. Government are, however, not aware of any successful experiment conducted in the country on the use of groundnut waste for card-board manufacture.

(b) No, Sir.

HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN BIHAR

***223. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry

be pleased to state the nature and extent of encouragement given to the handloom industry in Bihar by the All-India Handloom Board?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The Bihar Government have been asked to send up a scheme for the development of the handloom industry in the State to be financed out of the cess on mill cloth. Their proposals in this regard are awaited.

SPEECH OF UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR

***224. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether in pursuance of the provisions of International Law, a copy of the speech made by the present United States Ambassador to India had been furnished beforehand to the Ministry when he presented his credentials to our President?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): Yes. A copy of the speech made by the Ambassador of the United States of America in India at the time of presentation of his credentials was furnished to the Ministry of External Affairs in advance.

ROCK SALT

***225. Shrimati Kamalendu Mati Shah:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any possibility of mining rock salt in Tehri Garhwal District in U.P.;

(b) if so, whether Government are taking steps in this direction; and

(c) whether Government are aware that some years back there was trade in rock salt between the people of Tibet and Tehri Garhwal?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.