

STATEMENT

The total value of exports of Indian merchandise to dollar and sterling areas during the period January-June 1953, as compared with the corresponding period in 1952, is as follows :

	In lakhs of Rupees	
	January-June 1952	January-June 1953
Dollar Areas	74.45	59.73
Sterling Areas	173.48	123.22

FERTILISER STOCKS

478. Shri Keshavalengar: Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the quantum of the stock of fertilizers at the end of every month from January to June, 1953 in the Sindri Fertilizer Factory?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): A statement giving the information, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 40]

AUDITION TESTS IN MADRAS AND TIRUCHIRAPALLI

479. Shri Veeraswamy: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee was sent to Madras and Tiruchirapalli stations of All India Radio to test the staff artistes and other artistes; and

(b) if so, the total number (i) of staff and other artistes (separately) who gave auditions and (ii) of those selected?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Artistes are merely graded and there is no question of any selection.

TRADE WITH U. S. A.

480. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the value of exports to and imports from the U.S.A. during the first quarter of the year 1953-54?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): Exports—Rs. 2172 lakhs; imports—Rs. 2,945 lakhs (Provision).

MEDICAL FACILITIES IN N. E. F. AGENCY

481. Shri Bell Ram Das: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state how many new dispensaries have been opened during the past two years in the North East Frontier Agency?

(b) Is it a fact that malaria, dysentery and hook worm are common diseases in this Agency?

(c) Is it a fact that a large number of people in the Abors Hills die annually from tuberculosis?

(d) What step do Government propose to take to improve the health of the people in this Agency?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) 30 new dispensaries and hospitals were opened during the years 1951 and 1952.

(b) Malaria is fairly endemic in the Agency as in most heavy rainfall regions in the country. Dysentery and hook worm infections are not common.

(c) There is no evidence of this. The number of patients who have come under treatment or medical observations for tuberculosis is comparatively small.

(d) Steps have already been taken to improve and safeguard the health of the people inhabiting the Agency areas. 57 dispensaries and hospitals, 3 mobile health units, 14 itinerating units and 12 anti-malaria units are functioning in the interior of the hills. Three leprosy colonies have also been established. For the extension of medical aid to the inner most parts of the hills it is proposed to open additional dispensaries, hospitals and leprosy colonies under the Five Year Development plan, as also under the normal grants of the Agency.

RIVER VALLEY PROJECTS

482. Shri Muniswamy: (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state how many river valley projects are now under investigation by Government?

(b) What are these projects for which investigations have been completed recently?