

(d) whether any inquiry was conducted to find out their financial stability?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (d). The Nepa Mills was established as a private enterprise in January 1947 by M's Nair Press Syndicate Ltd. As the Managing Agents were unable to find necessary finances for the project, they approached the Government of Madhya Pradesh who agreed to undertake the financial responsibility provided the Managing Agents vacated office. Accordingly the Managing Agents vacated office in October 1949 and an officer of the Government of M.P. was appointed as Managing Director of the company. The Managing Agency agreement was also terminated.

Subsequently it was found that the Managing Agents were guilty of mismanagement of company's funds and other irregularities during their tenure of the Managing Agency. This was estimated at Rs. 20 lakhs. No action could be taken by the company as the ex-Managing Agents became insolvent.

In view of the above, the question of responsibility for appointing the Managing Agents or for not holding any prior enquiry to find out their financial stability does not arise.

Industrial Units in Andhra Pradesh

3818. Shri M. K. Kumaran: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Czechoslovakia has made an offer of collaboration in setting up a number of small and medium scale industrial units in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have considered the same and the decision taken in the matter?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry

(Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). No, Sir. No such offer has been received from Czechoslovakia.

Press Institute in India

3819. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Press Institute in India on the lines of the Press Institute in U.S.A.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not; the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Sham Nath): (a) to (c). A proposal for the setting up of an Institute of Journalism in India for imparting higher professional training to journalists and to run refresher courses for working journalists has been under consideration of Government and the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society. Details have not yet been worked out.

Conference of Indian Envoys in West Asian Region

**3820. { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:
Dr. L. M. Singhvi;
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri M. K. Kumaran:
Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1010 on the 24th May, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the conference of Indian envoys in the West Asian region was held on the scheduled dates;

(b) how many envoys attended the conference and how many were absent; and

(c) the outcome of the discussions held at the conference?

The Prime Minister & Minister of External Affairs and Minister of

Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) Besides Shri B. F. H. B. Tyabji, Special Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, who had completed his tour of the countries in the region, others present were the Indian Ambassadors at Beirut, Cairo, Tehran, Baghdad, Damascus and Jeddah; Shri D. S. Joshi, Special Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Consul General, Kuwait and the Commercial representatives in Indian Missions in these places.

(c) The Conference was held primarily to coordinate the views of our Envoys in West Asia; and to assess the state of affairs in regard to political, economic and cultural matters pertaining to the area, with particular reference to its relations with India in all these fields.

The meeting reviewed trade matters also. It did not make any formal recommendations. The suggestions which came up during the discussions will be considered by the Government in their overall programme for the development of exports.

M/s Saru Smelting and Refining Corporation Private Ltd., Meerut

3821. Shri M. K. Kumaran: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that M/s International Power Metallurgy Co. of U.S.A. have broken off negotiations for technical collaboration with M/s Saru Smelting and Refining Corporation Private Ltd. of Meerut on political grounds;

(b) whether the Indian firm has sought the help of Government in this matter; and

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

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The Government of India is not aware of any such case.

Indians in British East Africa

3822. Shri Ravindra Varma: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian nationals in the service of the Governments of Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda separately;

(b) whether Government have received reports that their conditions of service, seniority, promotions and incentives for efficiency are being adversely affected by the policy of Africanization of services now pursued by the Government of these countries; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take any measures to see that these Indian nationals are not subjected to unjust or discriminatory treatment?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) There are believed to be about 1,500 Indian citizens in Kenya in Government service and about 300 in Tanganyika. No figures are available in respect of Uganda.

(b) No Sir. Government's understanding is that no such adverse effects have been felt, though apprehensions exist in this respect, with regard to the future.

(c) Government of India have conveyed their views on the matter to the British Government. Any further action considered necessary and desirable will be taken at the appropriate time.

Atomic Power Plants

3823. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether radio-active experiments and the working of atomic power plants involve or entail, hazards to human health;

(b) if so, the nature of such hazards; and