

Board is lending aid, guidance and advice from time to time?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 38].

(b) Yes, Sir.

Khadi and Village Industries Commission

1502. Shri Sham Lal Saraf: With the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the activities under the Khadi and Village Commission have been organised in all the States; and

(b) if so, the result of these activities?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Besides considerable increase in production, the development programme under the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has created employment opportunities to 17.43 lakhs persons full time and 6.86 lakhs persons part time.

Export of Cashew Nuts

**1503. { Shri P. Kunhan:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:**

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of cashew nuts has shown an increase during January-February, 1962;

(b) what is the total quantity exported and foreign exchange earned against the same period last year;

(c) whether it is a fact that export of cashew nuts to U.K. and U.S. has shown a decline; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a)

and (b). Yes, Sir. Exports of cashew kernels during January-February 1962 amounted to 6,952,291 Kgs. valued at Rs. 2,79,06,612 as against 6,481,321 Kgs. valued at Rs. 3,05,37,032 during the corresponding months of 1961.

(c) and (d). The decline was due to the international prices having gone down in the last few months of 1961 and the first three months of 1962. However, the prices have recovered since March, 1962.

Non-utilisation of Full Capacity of Certain Industries

**1505. Shri Ajit Prasad Jain:
Shri Dhaon:**

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the extent to which the full capacity of imported industries is not being utilised; and

(b) if so, what is the extent of under-utilisation in the principal industries, viz., iron and steel, cement, textiles, paper, sugar, light and heavy chemicals?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Government are aware that there is under-utilisation of installed capacities in certain industries due to a number of factors including *inter alia* inadequate availability of foreign exchange or raw materials or coke and coal or transport facilities. Full information as to the extent of such under-utilisation is not, however, readily available.

Unpaid Bills of Contractors in NEFA

**1507. { Shri Swell:
Shri Rishang Keishing:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bills of many contractors in N.E.F.A. for works done in 1957 and 1958 are still unpaid; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Minimum Wages for Workers in Tripura

1508. Shri Biren Dutta: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether any minimum wages for different categories of workers of Tripura have been fixed; and

(b) if so, what are the categories of workers brought under Minimum Wages Act in Tripura?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Confirmation of Labour Inspectors (Central)

1509. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1656 on the 21st May, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the eligible Labour Inspectors (Central) have been confirmed against the 22 posts which were converted into permanent ones with effect from the 1st April, 1961;

(b) if not, the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) when this is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). Four such officers have been confirmed. The cases of the remaining will be finalised in consultation with the Departmental Promotion Committee.

(c) As soon as possible.

Fixation of Pay of Labour Inspectors (Central)

1510. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1655 on the 21st May, 1962 and state:

(a) whether a decision has since been taken in regard to grant of weightage of service to Labour Inspectors (Central) in fixation of their pay in the revised scale of pay;

(b) if not, when Government expect to take a final decision in the matter; and

(c) the reasons for this delay?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a) No.

(b) As early as possible.

(c) The various issues involved in the case require examination.

12.08 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

PUBLICATION OF PICTURE IN Swadhinata

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Under Rule 197, I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The publication of a picture of treasonable nature in the *Swadhinata*, a Calcutta Daily in its issue of 15th August, 1962 depicting Chinese soldiers on our border with hammer and sickle in one hand and foodstuff in another and our peasants receiving them with hammer and sickle banners."

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): The cartoon appearing in the issue of the 15th August, 1962 of the Bengali daily, *Swadhinata*, which is published from Calcutta has been brought to the notice