

The Minister of Planning and Labour & Employment (Shri Nanda): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

With a view to providing employment to those workers in the rural areas who remain unemployed and under-employed during slack agricultural season, specially in the areas with heavy pressure of population and high incidence of unemployment, a scheme called 'Pilot Projects for Utilising Rural Manpower' was initiated towards the end of 1960. Under the first series, 34 pilot projects were taken up in different States. Each project was allotted a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs and the schemes taken up included such labour-intensive works as land reclamation, soil conservation, minor irrigation, roads, etc. Detailed recommendations on pilot projects for utilising rural manpower were included in section IV of Chapter X on "Employment and Manpower" of the final report of the Third Five Year Plan (page 163). A larger programme consisting of 195 projects has been started since February, 1962 in the various States under the second series. The allotments made for the first 34 projects were treated as outright grant from the Centre. It has now been decided that the projects under the first series will be entitled to a further allotment of Rs. 1 lakh each during 1962-63 and the projects undertaken under the second series will be allotted Rs. 2 lakhs each, 50 per cent of which will be grant from the Centre and 50 per cent loan. The schemes included under the pilot projects are being executed by the Block Development agency assisted by the Panchayats.

Nepa Mills

***366. Shri Mahesh Dutta Misra:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a notice has been given to the Ministry by Shri Kitkul Ustad, Vice-President of the Workers' Union and also a share-holder to the effect that he will go on fast on the 20th April, 1962 if an Inquiry Committee to investigate into the affairs of the Nepa Mills, Nepanagar, Madhya Pradesh is not appointed; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government or by the management?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Shri Kitkul Ustad, Vice President of the Employees Union, Nepa Mills gave notice to the Nepa Mills authorities on the 3rd April 1962 announcing his intention to go on fast on the 20th April 1962 if a high level Inquiry Committee to investigate the affairs of Nepa Mills is not appointed. The management considered this not justified and Shri Kitkul Ustad accordingly went on fast on the 20th April, 1962. At the intervention of the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shri Kitkul Ustad gave up the fast on the morning of the 25th April, 1962.

The Nepa Mills authorities are examining the notice given by Shri Kitkul Ustad and action will be taken where necessary.

Export Promotion

***367. Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the actual contribution made so far by the various export promotion bodies to the export trade;

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) whether Government feel the need of reorientation thereof?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). An assessment is being made of the work done by these bodies and appropriate action is being taken for their re-orientation.

Accident at Kolar Fields

***368. Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether a rock-burst occurred at the Champion Reef Mine, Kolar Gold Fields on 24th March, 1962, resulting in death of 4 workers; and

(b) whether an enquiry has been held into the accident and, if so, the findings thereof?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes.

(b) The enquiry is still in progress.

Accident in Indian Iron and Steel Co. Gua

***369. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) what is the finding of the Chief Inspector of Mines on the accident and death of four blasters of Indian Iron and Steel Co., Gua on 26th June, 1961; and

(b) whether there was any infringement of Mines Rules?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a). A 35-feet deep hole in a quarry was being loaded with liquid oxygen cartridges when the third cartridge got stuck about 15 feet below the collar of the hole. While it was being dislodged, the cartridge exploded prematurely killing three persons instantaneously and seriously injuring two others. One of them succumbed to his injuries after

two hours. No one could be held responsible for this accident which has been classified as a case of 'Misadventure'.

(b) No.

Lustrous Wool

***371. Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for lustrous wools is increasing day by day for our shawl and carpet industries mainly; and

(b) what steps have been taken to make supplies of the requisite qualities of lustrous wool available for the said industries?

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

(b) The Special Export Promotion Scheme for Woollen Goods, Carpets etc. provides for the import of raw wool against export of woollen textiles, garments, carpets etc. and it is open to the manufacturer-exporter of finer varieties of carpets to import special quality lustrous wool against his entitlements.

Hindustan Housing Factory Ltd.

***372. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Hindustan Housing Factory Ltd., New Delhi was established;

(b) the name or names and description which it bore before its metamorphosis into the present name and form; and

(c) the date on which it first went into production; and

(d) what exactly the products are that are being manufactured by the factory at present?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):