

the West Bengal Government over the sale of this market.

Shri Biren Roy: Is the Government aware, or, are they going to completely abolish the market and have buildings therefor offices which should not be done, because, this is the only market for wholesalers and retailers in the south-west of Calcutta?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Since we expect to sell out this market to the West Bengal Government very soon, this question may be addressed to the West Bengal Government.

Fertilizer and Heavy Water Projects at Bhakra-Nangal

*1792. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister or Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently an enquiry was instituted into the economic soundness of the Bhakra-Nangal fertilizer factory and Heavy Water Project; and

(b) if so, the results of the enquiry?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). No formal enquiry was instituted; but certain doubts raised about the economic soundness of the project were examined and found to be baseless.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what those doubts were and by whom they were examined?

Shri Satish Chandra: A letter was received raising certain doubts about the Bhakra-Nangal project. It was said that the project is economically unsound that it will take long to execute and it involves an inferior utilisation of available electrical energy. All these points were examined by the Nangal Board and the Government. On the basis of the facts and figures, we have come to the conclusion that these doubts are baseless.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Who raised these doubts as to the economic soundness of this project?

Shri Satish Chandra: A letter was received from somebody in the Prime Minister's Secretariat and we examined all these points.

National Small Industries Corporation (Private) Limited

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*1794. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
 Shri Prabhat Kar:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a large sum of money has been sanctioned by the National Small Industries Corporation (Private) Limited to some firms for publicity purposes; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to have a check on expenditure by the Corporation on publicity?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The National Small Industries Corporation have spent on publicity only Rs. 96,080 up to 31st August 1957. Taking into account the nature of the work done, the sum spent is not at all large, as a good deal of publicity is required in the initial stages for the small-scale industries.

(b) The proposal for grant of funds, for establishment expenses including publicity, when received from the Corporation is duly scrutinised by Government and funds sanctioned only if considered necessary.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the name of this firm and may I know whether it is a fact that this firm was given this contract for publicity without any proper tender?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No, Sir. It is not a fact. As a matter of fact, it was not done only through one publicity firm but through different agencies and no sort of monopoly contract was given to anybody.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether, for lack of proper publicity, nearly 52,714 pairs of shoes were rejected by the Russians and whether this bulk is rotting in the godowns because of the abnormal size of the shoes, and whether this would mean a loss of Rs. 10 lakhs to the exchequer?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The question and the inference are rather, I should say, joined in a wrong way. Firstly, this Small Industries Corporation does not only handle one single transaction of shoes either with Russia or with any other country but it has today a very wide range of work throughout the country. To give only one instance, the hire purchase work being done by this particular Corporation in the field of small industries runs into Rs. 1,79,00,000. Then, it is coordinating its activities with several types of regional institutes. It runs estates and has organised for the purpose of both internal market and external market. Looking into all this, one cannot surmise that the sum that has been spent is rather high or that the complaint about the shoes is due to any defective publicity.

Shri Mahanty: In view of the fact that an advertisement unit is functioning in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, may I know why this advertising campaign was not given to that unit and why was it given to a private firm?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This Corporation is a private limited company registered under the Companies Act. Over and above the Information Ministry's agency, we have got to utilise in all these public sectors and corporations, the normal trade agencies to let the small man in the village know that here is a Corporation which is going to come to his aid and the terms and conditions of the loan and hire purchase have to be given and several cases advertised. Normally, newspapers would not take all these terms and give them as great a publicity as we desire.

Khadi Production

*1795. **Shri Sugandhi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 781 on the 21st August, 1957 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the subsidy benefit to the spinners on the traditional charkha works out at 40 per cent to spinners for Vastraswavelamban and less than 19% to spinners of wage earning class;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to remove this disparity; and

(c) what percentage of managerial expenditure is included while fixing the sale prices of traditional Khadi and its ready made apparels?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 18½ per cent for both traditional khadi and ready-made apparel. Since the latter are prepared under the same management, there is no additional charge for managerial expenditure.

तिब्बत के साथ व्यापार

*१७९६. श्री पद्म देव : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री २२ मई, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २४३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि हिमाचल प्रदेश, कागडा और गडवाल के भारतीय व्यापारियों का, जो चीन के तिब्बतीय भाग की सीमा पर व्यापार करते हैं, कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिये अब तक क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

- वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री कानूनगो) : इस प्रश्न पर चीनी लोक गण राज्य की सरकार से अब भी पत्र-व्यवहार हो रहा है ।

Now I shall read it in English also.

The matter is still under correspondence with the Government of the People's Republic of China.