

Provident Fund Scheme in Sugar Industry

*917. Shri K. N. Pandey: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sugar factories of U.P. and Bihar were taking into account retaining allowance of workmen while calculating their wages for the purpose of the Provident Fund Scheme at the time when the Act was applied to the sugar industry;

(b) whether the factories have discontinued the computation of retaining allowance for the purpose mentioned above; and

(c) if so, since when and why?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The explanation to para 29 of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme under which provident fund contributions were required to be calculated on retainer's allowance was deleted with effect from 31.7.56, the date from which sugar factories were brought under the scheme because the explanation was considered inconsistent with the definition of 'basic wages' under the Employees' Provident Funds Act.

Cable Factory, Tripunithura (Kerala)

*918. Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a cable factory is going to be started shortly at Tripunithura in Kerala State;

(b) if so, what is the proposed capital outlay of the factory;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the company is to be a joint Indo-Japanese venture; and

(d) if so, what are the conditions under which the joint enterprise is going to be started?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. An application for the grant of a licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, has been made for the establishment of a new undertaking at Tripunithura in Kerala State.

(b) The authorised capital has been specified in the application as Rs. 50 lakhs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The conditions of foreign collaboration are under examination.

Textiles Exports

*919. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present position with regard to textile exports from India;

(b) whether the mutually agreed ceiling on the export of textiles from India to the U.K., which was arrived at some time ago, is being adhered to;

(c) if so, what is the nature of limit put on the ceiling; and

(d) whether other exporting countries to the U.K. have also agreed to such ceiling on exports?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) During January-May, 1957, exports of cotton textiles (mill-made) aggregated to about 392 million yards. Exports during this period recorded an increase by 24% over the exports during the corresponding period of 1956 viz., 316 million yards.

(b) There is no ceiling on exports of cotton textiles from India to U.K.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As far as Government are aware, no country has agreed to a ceiling on their exports.