

would be available. Technical aspects and projects details of most of the N.I.D.C. schemes are almost finalised. Apart from technical collaboration availability of foreign capital or suitable long-term payment facilities for plant and machinery is a vital factor and this is under active negotiations.

Hindustan Cable Factory

*163. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether order has been placed to procure an additional plant to be erected at the Rupnarainpur Hindustan Cable Factory to manufacture Co-axial and Switch board cables;

(b) if so, when it is expected to come and what is its estimated price; and

(c) whether people will be trained to handle the plant?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Orders have been placed for additional plant required for the manufacture of Coaxial Cables. A programme for the manufacture of Switchboard cables in the factory has not yet been taken up and no plant has been ordered for this purpose.

(b) The additional plant for Co-axial cables is expected to be completely shipped from the United Kingdom by September, 1958 and its estimated price is Rs. 27 lakhs. It will go into production in April, 1959.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Waterproof Fabrics

*164. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of water-proof fabrics in the country is commensurate with the demand;

(b) if not, the quantity that has been imported in the last two years; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure self-sufficiency in the commodity?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir."

(b) During the last two years imports of water-proofed clothing have been negligible.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Hosiery Industry

*165. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hosiery Industry of India is meeting keen competition from Japan in many Asian Countries; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to encourage and help the Industry to withstand that competition?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Hosiery Industry is meeting keen competition not only from Japan but from Hong-kong also.

(b) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 62].

I.L.O.

*166. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Labour Organisation has made a study of the problem of unemployment in India;

(b) if so, their main recommendations;

(c) whether Government has considered this report; and

(d) if so, with what results?

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