

(ग) एक विवरण सभा की मेज पर रखा जाता है। [बेसिफे परसिस्ट २, प्रनुबन्ध संख्या ४५]

(घ) १९५७ में प्लास्टिक की बीजों और चीनी जैसी कुछ वस्तुओं का सूडान को निर्यात किया गया जिनका पहले निर्यात नहीं होता था।

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether as a result of the negotiations, there has been any change in the terms advantageous to India in the import of cotton from Sudan?

Shri Kanungo: We have been traditional buyers of Sudanese cotton.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: I wanted to know whether there has been any change in the terms and conditions of import which are advantageous to India.

Shri Kanungo: In this case we have agreed to take 40,000 bales

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Is it a fact that Egyptian cotton is selling at a price cheaper than Sudanese cotton, and may I know if an Egyptian delegation came to India and discussed this thing with the Government of India and, if so, what is the reason for importing such a large bulk of Sudanese cotton and not Egyptian cotton?

Shri Kanungo: Egyptian and Sudanese cotton of equal varieties are of almost equal prices; Sudan's value is lower sometimes.

Shri Tangamani: From the statement we find that out of the exports to Sudan a large quantity is finished cotton piecegoods, and that has been on the increase from 1952 onwards. May I know whether these piecegoods include those manufactured in Pondicherry and also handloom from the South?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the break-up for that.

Shri Ansar Harvani: What percentage of trade with Sudan is being carried on by the State Trading Corporation, and what percentage by the private sector?

Shri Kanungo: There is not much trade in the public sector; in fact, nothing

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the import of cotton will be met by increased exports to Sudan?

Shri Kanungo: We traditionally import 6.5 lakh bales of cotton, out of which we go in for 3 lakh bales of Egyptian and Sudanese cotton. We have restricted this steeply now.

T. B. among Industrial Workers

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*283. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Jagdish Awasthi:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of T. B. among the industrial workers are on the increase, and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to check the growing number?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) On the basis of the limited data that we have, it is not possible to draw any conclusion one way or the other.

(b) A statement giving some of the facilities provided for the treatment of T. B. patients among industrial workers is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix II, annexure No 46].

Shri A. K. Gopalan: From the statement it is seen that there is an increase of T. B. among industrial workers. May I know if this is due to bad working conditions or some other reasons?

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): I wonder how it is possible to draw

such a conclusion that the incidence is on the increase because the data is so limited. It refers to so few places, it does not cover a long enough period. Therefore, the answer was that we were not in a position to say exactly how the rate has varied.

Shri Muhammed Elias: May I know how many patients have been treated up till now under the Employees' State Insurance scheme since the scheme came into existence, and how many are on the waiting list for hospitalisation?

Shri Abid Ali: If the hon. Member gives separate notice, the information will be collected and supplied.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Ministry has any scheme for mass radiography or tuberculosis test of industrial workers in cities where the population has more of industrial workers?

Shri Abid Ali: The arrangement provided at present has been mentioned in the statement.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether each industry is being separately taken up for investigation of the incidence of T. B.

Shri Abid Ali: Information is collected on the basis of the T. B. patients attending the hospitals which are managed by us.

Shri Achar: Is it a fact that not only with regard to the industrial workers but with regard to others also T.B. is on the increase?

Mr. Speaker: The question is only with regard to industrial workers.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What is the number of T. B. beds which have been either reserved or increased in the local hospitals by the Employees' State Insurance in India?

Shri Abid Ali: That is mentioned in the statement.

Shri Tangamani: In regard to the Employees' State Insurance scheme,

the statement only says that persons who are in regular employment for three years are given this benefit. No further particulars are given as to the number of beds etc.

Shri Abid Ali: If further information is wanted, I am prepared to give if notice is given.

Mr. Speaker: A separate question may be put.

Foundry Forge Project

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*284. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
Shri Heda:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Jaganatha Rao:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 575 on the 27th November, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the negotiations for the establishment of a Foundry Forge Project have since been completed;

(b) if so, the name of the firm which will collaborate in this project and the terms and conditions offered to it;

(c) the location of the project;

(d) when the first stage of the project will be completed and the time by which it will go into production; and

(e) the estimated expenditure on this project?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (e). An understanding has been reached between the Government of India and Czechoslovakia about the terms of payment for the plant and machinery required to be imported for the foundry forge project, by which there will be no remittance in foreign exchange before April 1961. Discussions about the technical and financial details have started with representatives of M/s. Technoexport of Czechoslovakia.