

Central Advisory Council of Industries

*1134. { Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing the decisions taken at the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Central Advisory Council of Industries held on the 10th February, 1958 at New Delhi?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): The Standing Committee is an Advisory Body. A statement showing the main recommendations made by the meeting of the Standing Committee held on the 10th February, 1958, is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 99.]

Shri Ram Krishan: From the statement I find that some State Governments have withdrawn the permit system for distribution of cement. May I know the names of those States?

Shri Manubhai Shah: So far, the indications are that the Mysore Government are taking steps to remove the permit system. Perhaps, the Rajasthan Government may follow suit. But at a recent meeting of all the representatives of the State Governments, it was generally agreed that 75 per cent of the stocks would be released without permit and 25 per cent might be retained against permits.

Shri Ranga: May I know whether any representation has been given on this council to the representatives of labour such as the INTUC?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, the representatives of labour are given representation.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement, there is reference to the cement industry and the automobile industry. May I know whether the suggestions made by the Import Advisory Council which met on 8th February, 1958—and which were given out in reply to Starred Question No. 539 on 27th February, 1958—about the imports of raw mate-

rials like steel plates and mild steel sheets etc. necessary for the automobile industry, have been considered, and if so, what action has been taken to facilitate those imports?

Shri Manubhai Shah: If the hon. Member refers to page 2 of the statement, recommendation No. 9 he will see:

“A suggestion was made that import licences might be granted to manufacturers of automobiles on the basis of 12 months’ requirements.

The Government of India would examine the proposition”

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know the reaction of the Government of Uttar Pradesh towards the abolition of the permit system in regard to distribution of cement?

Shri Manubhai Shah: More or less all are agreed that a stage has come when a large number of restrictions should be withdrawn. But because, in the past, we had been faced with situations of great scarcity, caution is indicated everywhere, but I hope that as the supplies increase, the restrictions will to a great extent be removed and perhaps completely withdrawn.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether Government propose to produce cement-producing machinery in this country as recommended by the Central Advisory Council, and if so, whether it is a fact that Government have already contacted some foreign countries over this matter?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As the House is aware, it is not as if the country does not make any cement-producing machinery at all; it does make a sizeable quantity. But, of course, when it comes to the principal units, the manufacture is not of a very great magnitude. Recently, a scheme has been approved, which will also produce about two to three complete cement plants a year when it goes into full production. Our efforts are continuing to see that these machi-

neries are progressively made in this country.

Shri Bimal Ghose: May I know the Government of India's advice to the State Governments with regard to the distribution of cement?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As I have already indicated in the House several times, we told them that they could do away with the permit system entirely, but once bitten, twice shy, the State Government, would not like to do so because they have got to see the transport position, the availability, the stock position, the release position, the priority requirement of different projects etc., and it is for them to take necessary steps in the light of the supply position.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether restrictions have been imposed upon cotton yarn and finished goods like motor starters, as suggested by the Import Advisory Council?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That does not arise out of this question. But I can always assure the hon. Member that we meet these august bodies really to benefit from what they tell us.

Shri Sonavane: May I know whether the representative of the leather industry has been taken on the Central Advisory Council as well as on the standing committee thereof?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As far as the standing Committee is concerned, it is a recent innovation under the rules. We thought that the bigger body, namely the Central Advisory Council of Industries, would not be in a position to meet too often. So, the smaller group is meeting, and whenever a particular industry comes up on the agenda, the representatives of that industry are called in in order to discuss the problems with them.

Shri Sonavane: I wanted to know definitely...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Industrial Estate

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*1134. { **Shri Ghosal:**
 Shri Subhman Ghose:

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

(a) whether there has been any progress in establishing Industrial Estate in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, what?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix V, annexure No. 100.]

Shri Ghosal: May I know whether the common service facility centre has got any connection with the industrial estate?

Shri Manubhai Shah: All these extension centres are going to be located henceforth in the industrial estate so that they can serve a concentrated orbit of working.

Shri Ghosal: May I know what is the amount allotted under the head 'common service facilities centre'?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Those are not separate headings. I have given the total cost. If the hon. Member will look into the statement, for the first it is Rs. 54.20 lakhs, for the second Rs. 5.45 lakhs, and then progressively for each of them, figures have been given.

Shri Manaen: May I know whether there is any proposal to have an industrial estate at Siliguri? If so, what is the nature and extend thereof?

Shri Manubhai Shah: For an industrial estate in Siliguri, as mentioned in the statement, land has already been selected and provision for the development of land has been made during the current year. We are all the time stressing on State Governments the very great necessity to give acceleration to this programme.