

General Motors had applied for the manufacture of the Bedford Diesel Engines for the Bedford trucks. However, in view of the capacity available with indigenous automotive diesel engine manufacturers the proposal was not approved by the Government.

Durgapore Coke Oven Plant

*686. Shri Bimal Ghose: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been received from West Bengal Government for doubling the capacity of the Durgapore Coke Oven Plant; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

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

(b) Final decision has not been taken so far.

Madras Textile Dyers and Producers Conference

*687. Shri Achar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the resolution passed by the Madras Textile Dyers and Producers Conference held at Erode during September last setting forth their grievances and difficulties;

(b) whether Government have taken or proposed to take any steps to remedy their grievances and difficulties?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

Some resolutions passed at the Third Conference of the Madras State Textile Dyers' and Printers' Association on the 28th September, 1958,

have been received. They related, mainly, to

- (i) the question of the supply and prices of dyes and chemicals to textile industry;
- (ii) representation for the Dyers' and Printers' Association in the Handloom Board and other institutions;
- (iii) certain facilities to textile printing industry.

Regarding the prices of dyes and chemicals as soon as reports were received immediate measures were taken. Firstly, in regard to the requirements of co-operatives, arrangements were made through apex societies to obtain their requirements at reasonable prices. In regard to other consumers a conference was held by the Textile Commissioner at the end of October to assist in the equitable and fair distribution of the available dyes and arrest unhealthy rises in the prices of dye-stuffs. The situation is under constant review and no control of the prices of imported dyes is considered necessary at present.

The other points raised in the Resolutions are under consideration.

Agriculturists

*688. Shri Bishwanath Roy: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether there is demand from any country for Indian agriculturists to settle there?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri J. N. Hazarika): No, Sir.

Factories for Tractors

*689. { Shri L. Achaw Singh:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri B. C. Prodhan:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to start factories for the manufacture of agricultural tractors in the public sector in India;