

regarding grant of facilities to Scheduled Caste occupants of evacuee properties has since been collected and examined; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) The information has been collected and is being examined.

(b) A decision will be taken soon.

Pipe Manufacturing Plant

*850. Shrimati Ba Palchoudhuri: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the question of setting up a Pipe Manufacturing Plant in India is under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the broad details of the proposal; and

(c) the extent of progress made in regard thereto?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). The question of setting up a pipe manufacturing plant is under the consideration of the Government. No final decision has yet been taken.

Relaying Stations at Vizianagaram and Kurnool

*851. Shri Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the establishment of two relaying stations, one at Vizianagaram and the other at Kurnool or Ananthapur, is under the consideration of the Government of India;

(b) if so, the stage at which the proposal is; and

(c) the probable date of its finalisation?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Br. Keskar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shortage of Tyres and Spare-parts

*852. Shri Khadilkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute shortage of tyres and spare-parts required by the Motor Transport Industry in India;

(b) what is the extent of this shortage of tyres and spare-parts, if any, in terms of the total requirements of the country;

(c) whether Government are aware that the goods transport industry especially the small private transport operators have been seriously affected by the shortage; and

(d) if so, what are the causes thereof?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (d). There is some temporary shortage of tyres in some particular sizes of giant tyres. This is mainly due to there being a heavy demand for this particular size, as a lorry fitted with this size (in place of 8.25-20 or 34x7) can carry heavier loads. Internal production of all types of tyres is also increasing rapidly.

Some complaints about shortage of spare-parts have been received consequent upon the restrictive import policy. In the new import policy, it is proposed to liberalise these imports to some extent.

Pashmina Industry in Kashmir

*853. Shri A. M. Tariq: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pashmina industry in Kashmir is facing a crisis;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to safeguard the interests of the industry; and

(c) if so, what are they?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):
(a) Government have no information to this effect

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd.

*854. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Ansar Harvani:
Shri Daljit Singh:
Shri Kamal Singh:
Qazi Matin:
Shri Prabhat Kar:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

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

(a) whether the expansion scheme for the production of Urea and double salt at Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd has been completed;

(b) if so, whether this project has been commissioned into operation; and

(c) what is the target of production of the project?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The erection of the various plants has been completed.

(b) The plants are under commissioning and trial runs are being made

(c) The plants have been designed for the production of 1,40,000 metric tons of Ammonium Sulphate nitrate and 24,500 metric tons of Urea per year

Industrial Disputes Act

*855. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Siddananjappa:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 850 on the 11th December, 1958

and state at what stage is the question of amendment of Industrial Disputes Act?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): The question of amendment of Industrial Disputes Act was considered by the Committee set up by the Standing Labour Committee for this purpose on the 16th-17th January, 1959, and the recommendations made by it are under examination

Indian Jute Mills Association

*856. Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) whether any delegation sponsored by the Indian Jute Mills Association has gone to the USA and Australia last year,

(b) how much foreign exchange was spent on the delegation; and

(c) whether Government are considering to send such delegations from other trades?

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

(a) A delegation visited Australia in 1958. No delegation was sponsored by the Indian Jute Mills Association to USA

(b) Foreign exchange equivalent to Rs 19,920 was released to the delegation

(c) Such delegations are considered as and when occasion arises

Fountain Pens and Razor Blades

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

(a) whether any efforts have been made to assess the quality of fountain pens and razor blades produced in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware that the standard and quality of fountain pens and razor blades have somewhat deteriorated;