

(c) whether any estimate of expenditure for this project has been made; and

(d) if so, what is the amount estimated to be spent?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (d). There is a proposal of the Government of West Bengal for constructing a gas grid from Durgapur to Calcutta; but final decision has not yet been taken by the Government of India. The estimated expenditure of the project is about Rs. 315 lakhs.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know how this amount is going to be met, whether by the Government of India or by the West Bengal Government or by any private undertaking?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The project has not been approved at all, and so that question does not arise. It is only after the examination of the project and all its merits and other things that it can be decided as to who will finance it and how provided the project is approved.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Export of Jute Goods

***369. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total Indian export earnings from Jute goods during the period 1954 to 1958;

(b) whether there is a decline in the export of Jute goods to West Germany; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to improve the situation?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Rs. 534.3 crores during the period from 1954-55 to 1958-59 (upto October 1959).

(b) There was a decline in 1956 and 1957 as compared to 1955, but this year

there will actually be an increase over the 1955 figures.

(c) In view of the increase in exports this year, this does not arise.

Indo-China

***371. Shri Ramoshwar Tandia:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any further efforts have been made by the Government of India to end deadlock in Indo-China; and

(b) if so, with what results?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). It is presumed that the Member refers to the deadlock over the reunification of Vietnam. No tangible progress has been made towards reunification. The primary responsibility for the execution of the Geneva Agreement rests with the parties to the Agreement. The International Commission for Supervision and Control in Vietnam, under Indian Chairmanship, continues its efforts to maintain peace in the area.

Shortage of Tyres

***372. Shri Osman Ali Khan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of tyres in the country;

(b) what is the extent of this shortage, and

(c) what measures are being adopted by Government to meet this shortage?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b) So far as Government is aware there is a temporary shortage and that too only to a small extent in one particular size namely a few varieties of Giant Tyres.

(c) Industrial licences have been granted for the establishment of 3 new units and for expansion of the 2 existing units. With the commencement of production of the Dunlops factory at

Ambattur and completion of the expansion scheme of M/s. Firestones even this temporary shortage is expected to disappear.

भारतीय चाय मिशन

*३७६. श्री बाबुपेयी : क्या बालिष्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अक्टूबर, १९५८ में आयरलैंड का दौरा करने वाले भारतीय चाय मिशन ने अपना प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत कर दिया है ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो क्या उसकी एक प्रति सभा-पटल पर रखी जायेगी ?

बालिष्य तथा उद्योग उपमंत्री (श्री सतीशचन्द्र) : (क) तथा (ख) प्रतिवेदन चाय बोर्ड को दिया जा चुका है। बोर्ड की सम्मति के साथ उसकी अभी प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है।

Indian Oxygen and Acetylene Company

*378. Shri Muhammed Elias: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 900 on the 14th August, 1957 and state.

(a) what is the total number and value of shares allotted to the Indian shareholders by the Indian Oxygen and Acetylene Company since August, 1957, and

(b) what is the total amount of profit earned by this Company during the year 1957-58?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Since August 1957, 6,00,000 ordinary shares of Rs 10 each have been offered and issued to the Indian public at a premium of Rs. 35 per share.

(b) The balance sheet for the year 1957-58 is, however, still to be filed by the Company.

Housing

*381. Shri I. Eacharan: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to cut down the amount provided in the Second Five Year Plan for housing, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) The original allocation of Rs 120 crores has had to be reduced to Rs 84 crores as a result of the reappraisal of the Plan. It has, however, been decided that sanction commitments may be made to the extent of the original provision of Rs 120 crores provided, the actual expenditure does not exceed Rs 84 crores.

(b) The cut was considered necessary due to the general trend of rising cost, the limited resources of the country and the necessity to ensure the completion of the more important development projects in the core of the Plan, even at a higher cost.

Public Undertakings at Bangalore

*386 Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists any uniformity among the industries under the Central Government in Bangalore namely the Hindustan Aircraft, Indian Telephone Industries, Hindustan Machine Tools and Bharat Electronics, in respect of leave facilities and other conditions of service;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any representation demanding uniformity in working conditions; and

(d) the steps taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). Complete uniformity does not exist in all