

STATEMENT

The process proposed to be adopted for the manufacture of newsprint from bagasse at Shakkarnagar being a new one, it was considered desirable to get an assessment of the technical and economic feasibility of the process. Experiments are to be conducted on the bagasse available at Shakkarnagar and on the basis of the results of which the German Experts would work out the economics of the process and give their advice.

In the meanwhile a small quantity of bagasse has also been shipped to Japan for experiments on the feasibility of manufacturing newsprint from bagasse by Japanese Paper Experts.

Automatic Looms

*893. { Shri R S Arumugam.
Shri Ganapathy:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 15 on the 3rd August, 1959 and state:

(a) the number of mills which have applied for automatic looms in Madras State;

(b) how many of these have so far been allotted automatic looms; and

(c) how many applications have so far been received from Madras State for installation of automatic looms for export purposes only?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) 5 mills

(b) 4 mills

(c) The last date for receipt of applications for installation of automatic looms for export purposes only is 31st August, 1959. Upto 25th August, 1959 only 1 application has been received from Madras State.

Looting of Trucks by Nagas

*894. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two trucks of civilian businessmen were looted by the Naga hostiles at Khoijuma on the Dimapur Manipur Road during the last week of July, 1959;

(b) whether it is a fact that one of the drivers was seriously injured by gun shots from the rebels,

(c) what is the value of the goods looted;

(d) whether all goods vehicles have suspended their operations on this route;

(e) whether it is a fact that only passenger buses are given armed escort by the military authorities Kohima; and

(f) whether the prices of all commodities for local consumption have shot up due to the suspension of operation by vehicles?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) Yes, two unescorted vehicles were looted by armed Naga hostiles on the 29th July, 1959

(b) A Handyman was slightly injured

(c) Rs 14/- two woollen coats and two fountain pens were looted

(d) The plying of vehicles on this route was suspended for a few days because of a landslide

(e) All vehicles moving in a convoy are provided with armed escort.

(f) No increase in prices has been reported.

Raw Film Quota for Children's Films

*895 Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations that the pro-