

(b) Action on the main recommendations made by the two officers will be taken after the French Engineer has visited the country. Introduction of a system of grading of salt and of transport of salt in bulk by rail are under consideration.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether there is any great demand for pure salt from chemical industries and, if so, whether any immediate steps have been taken in this regard?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As the hon. Member has rightly pointed out, there is very great demand and, therefore, the production of quality salt meant for chemical industries has also increased manifold during the last few years.

Shri S. C. Samanta: At what stage is the scheme to transport salt by railways with paper liner?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The demand with paper-lining in the bag is not much because table salt or refined salt could be better packed in small packets. So that has not arisen.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether the export of salt has increased by an appreciable quantity and, if so, by how many thousand tons?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I would not say that it has increased but it has not receded also thanks to the recent agreement that the STC has entered into with the Japanese importers. As a result of this step we hope that gradually exports might increase.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that the officers suggested the introduction of mechanical harvesting of salt as also the modern process of salt production as the salt pumps? If so, what steps have Government taken in that direction?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The recommendations of the officers and what they saw on the Continent point out to entirely revolutionary changes in the modernisation of production of

salt. Therefore we have to carefully consider on the one hand the importance of modernization of salt industry and on the other hand the reduction in employment that it may cause due to these revolutionary changes that have taken place in European countries.

Small Scale Industries

*615. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which Government have slowed down their expenditure on Cottage and Small Scale Industries for lack of funds;

(b) what priority Government give to the development of Small Scale Industries;

(c) the extent to which the administrative and technical machinery set up and tempo generated for development of small industries will be utilised during the remaining part of the Second Five Year Plan; and

(d) what more funds would be required and whether steps have been taken to make necessary provision?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 75].

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: As the hon. Minister has given an idea of the overall reduction, may I know the extent of the reduction in the case of small-scale industry? What is the basis for this reduction? Is it incapacity of the administrative machinery to utilise the funds or is it lack of funds?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have mentioned in the answer that the main thing is the lack of resources. As a matter of fact the activities of all the boards for small industries, including small-scale industries, *khadi*, handloom and handicrafts are so much going up that if more funds than have been originally provided were there,

they could have fruitfully utilised them. The reduction in the small-scale industries sector, which the hon. Member has enquired about, is from Rs. 61 crores to Rs. 55.57 crores. That is entirely due to lack of resources.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know whether it is a fact that certain State Governments have asked for more funds and they are asked to make re-adjustments from one major head to another? Does this apply also in the case of under-developed States?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There have practically been demands for increasing the allocation from every State for almost every scheme under the small industries. What we have advised them is that it is not possible to raise the allocations and that if there is a shortfall in one sector of the economy and they want to divert it to small-scale industry or other small industry sector they will be permitted to do so from within the State plan.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: In view of the fact that right from the hon. Prime Minister down to every one has asked for better tempo in the small-scale industry and the great employment potential which it promised, is the Government prepared to reconsider the whole matter, particularly in the light of the fact that the tempo already created will get a great set back and the administrative machinery which is already there is rusting?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Manubhai Shah: I fully share the anxiety of the House and the hon. Member on this. As the hon. Member is aware, we have lost no opportunity of impressing upon all authorities concerned to allot more and more funds to them. All I can assure the House is that the cut in this sector in proportion to other sectors has been less.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: In certain sectors there has been no cut

Mr. Speaker: He has given his explanation.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Part (b) of the question asks about the priorities that Government gives to them. This has not been answered in the statement. I want to know whether Government have allotted any priority to various industries. If so what is the exact priority allotted to these small-scale industries in the Plan?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Priority to all small industries is one of the highest. Which priority does the hon. Member want to know? Does he want to know the inter-industry priority?

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Yes.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Inter-industry priorities are well-known. Machine building gets the highest priority. Engineering industries get the next priority. Chemical industries get the third priority. Consumer industries, of course, are accorded a high priority but it is lower than that of these three.

Shri Achar: Is it not a fact that many of the block development committees are not able to spend the amount budgeted for small-scale industries? If so, has the Government any proposal in regard to that?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That provision is entirely separate from the provision of Rs. 200 crores for small-scale industries under the Plan. What the hon. Member says is to some extent correct. There has been some shortfall. Therefore we are trying to see that with the co-ordination of both the ministries we can take over a part of their work and see that funds are more adequately and expeditiously utilised.

Shri Tangamani: Out of these Rs. 41½ crores set apart for the year 1959-60 for cottage and small-scale industries, how much has been earmarked for small-scale industries?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Rs. 55.57 crores.

Shri Tangamani: That is for the total. Rs. 55.74 crores is out of the total which has been earmarked for cottage and small industries for the entire Plan period. Out of the Rs. 41½ crores which have been set apart for cottage and small-scale industries in the current year, that is, 1959-60, how much has been set apart for small-scale industries? I want to know the break-up.

Shri Manubhai Shah: If the hon. Member wants to know the yearly break-up of every sector I am prepared to give it. But it is a long list. For the current year for small-scale industries it is about Rs. 15 crores.

शेठ गोविन्द दास : जो लघु उद्योगों के सम्बन्ध में सरकार को अनुभव हुआ है और इस सम्बन्ध में भिन्न भिन्न राज्यों से जो लिखा-पढ़ी हुई है, क्या उस के आधार पर इस प्रकार का विचार किया जा रहा है कि जेते इस समय लघु उद्योगों को कम प्रोत्साहन मिला वैसे तृतीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में न होने पाए ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने बताया, हम अभी यह चाहते हैं कि कम से कम ५००-६०० करोड़ रुपये तृतीय पंच वर्षीय योजना में लघु उद्योगों को मिले, और इस हाउस की जितनी सिम्पली है इस मामले से उसकी देखते हुए हम आशा करते हैं कि वहाँ तक पहुँचने की हम कोशिश कर सकेंगे ।

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What are the reasons that the small-scale industry is not accepted as a core of the Plan industry? The answer which he has given to part (d) of the question does not reconcile with what he has stated here. How are you going to revise the Plan and increase the funds in the last year when you are cramping them in the third year and fourth year of the Plan?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The facts of the situation are broadly known to

the whole country and to the House. We had to prune the Plan a little because of the lack of adequate resources. To match with the overall target therefore the original provision of Rs. 200 crores had to be slightly brought down. But I can assure the House that compared to the cut in my own Ministry, the cut in the small-scale has been less.

दिल्ली का औद्योगिक सर्वेक्षण

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*६१६- { श्री भक्त वर्मान :
श्री नवल प्रभाकर :
श्री डी० चं० शर्मा :

क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री २५ अगस्त, १९५९ के तारखतित प्रश्न संख्या ८७२ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली का जो औद्योगिक सर्वेक्षण किया जा रहा है उस में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ; और

(ख) इस सर्वेक्षण के कब तक समाप्त होने की संभावना है ?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The staff required for the survey is being appointed. It is expected that the survey will be started early next year.

(b) The survey is expected to be completed by the end of 1960.

शेठ गोविन्द दास : यह सवाल हिन्दी में है । हम आशा करते थे कि इसका उत्तर हिन्दी में दिया जायगा ।

श्री मनुभाई शाह : (क) इस सर्वेक्षण के लिए आवश्यक कर्मचारियों की भरती की जा रही है । यह सर्वेक्षण अगले वर्ष के प्रारंभ में शुरू हो जाने की आशा है ।

(ख) इस सर्वेक्षण के १९६० के अंत तक समाप्त होने की संभावना है ।

श्री भक्त वर्मान : श्रीमन्, इसी प्रश्न के उत्तर में पिछली बार मंत्री जी ने बताया