

centre. Most of the existing 131 displaced families who settled in the area on their own as early as in 1952, have taken to petty business at Teliamura Bazar. Efforts are being made to increase the holdings of such displaced persons as are entirely dependent on agriculture by undertaking terracing of tilla lands and also by allotting to them more land either from Khas area or by acquisition of private land. At present the holdings are on an average about 0.57 acre per family.

#### Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference

\*782. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Commonwealth Prime Minister's conference will be held soon; and

(b) if so, when and where the next Conference will be held?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). No decision has yet been taken regarding the date and venue of the next Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference.

#### Plants for Basic Drugs

\*783. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
Shri Bhakt Darshan:  
Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shri Panigrahi:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:  
Shri Sarju Pandey:  
Shri Nagi Reddy:  
Shri Warrior:  
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:  
Shri Hem Raj:  
Shri Narayanankutty Menon:  
Shrimati Ha Palehouchuri:  
Shri P. G. Deb:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the

reply given to Starred Question No. 7 on the 3rd August, 1959 and state:

(a) the progress made so far in regard to obtaining estimates for setting up units of basic drugs;

(b) whether Government have since received the report from the Committee set up to recommend location of drug units;

(c) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) the decision taken by Government thereon?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) In pursuance of the Agreement entered into with the Government of the USSR on the 29th May, 1959 for co-operation in establishing state enterprises for the manufacture of drugs, medicines and surgical instruments a Contract has been signed on 5th September, 1959 with Messrs. Techno-export of Moscow to render technical assistance in selecting construction sites and collecting initial data necessary for designing the drug enterprises in view. Some members of a team of U.S.S.R. experts have already arrived in India for this purpose and others are expected very shortly.

(b) to (d). The 'Drug Projects Location Committee' have recently submitted their report which is at present under active consideration of the Government.

#### Trade Delegation from Iraq

\*784. { Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:  
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
Sardar Iqbal Singh:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:  
Shri Khimji:  
Shri Amjad Ali:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Ram Garib:  
Qazi Matin:  
Shri Karni Singhji:  
Shri Manabendra Shah:

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

of talks held during the month of September, 1959 between the Iraqi Trade Delegation and the Union Commerce and Industry Ministry on ways to increase trade between the two countries?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):** Iraqi authorities have agreed to take steps to facilitate import of Indian goods particularly tea and new industrial products while we have agreed to facilitate larger imports of Iraqi dates.

#### Production of Calcium Carbide

\*785. { Shri Subodh Hansda:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 289 on the 11th August, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the quality of calcium carbide produced indigenously is as good as the imported variety; and

(b) if not, what steps Government are taking to improve the quality of indigenous variety?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) The indigenous product is slightly inferior to the imported variety.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

Government have taken the following steps to improve the quality of the indigenous variety of calcium carbide:—

(i) New factories are being located at places where better quality of lime stone and coal are available.

(ii) The use of alternate carbonaceous raw materials with low ash content such as charcoal and petroleum coke is being encouraged.

(iii) Large and modern furnaces with improved techniques of material handling are being installed.

#### Export of Cotton Goods

\*786. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been reached between India and U.K., on the volume of cotton goods that India can export to U.K.;

(b) if so, the important terms and conditions of such an agreement; and

(c) the extent to which Indian Textile Industry is likely to be benefited from the above agreement?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 5.]

#### Optical and Ophthalmic Glass Factory

\*787. { Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:  
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 588 on the 20th August, 1959 and state:

(a) the progress made so far in the consideration of the Project Report relating to the Optical and Ophthalmic Glass Plant;

(b) whether the Project report has been accepted by Government; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken for its implementation?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) to (c). The detailed project report has been