

Industries as a joint effort of different officers in different institutes and other offices. It is not possible to say exactly how many schemes have been prepared in consultation with any particular Institute. But in all 50 model schemes have been so far prepared by different Institutes. The implementation of direct Central Government schemes in the Kerala State is in progress at Shoranur, Trichur, Alleppey, Attingal, Muvattupuzha, Ettumanoor, Thiruvalla and Vanamkulam.

Indians in Malaya

*635-A. { Shri Kumaran:
Shri Narayanankutty Menon:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) whether the Malayan Independence Bill now under consideration by the British Parliament contains any provisions adversely affecting the rights of Indians in Malaya, and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to safeguard their interests?

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

(a) The provisions of the Bill to which the Member refers do not envisage any discrimination against Indians in Malaya as such. Some of the clauses relating to citizenship, however, are understood to have undergone certain amendments. The final bill containing the new Malayan constitution will go up to the Malayan Federal Legislative Council only about the middle of August 1957 after approval by the State Councils. A copy of the bill in final form has not yet reached us, and it is too early to say now whether it contains any provisions adversely affecting the rights of Indians in Malaya.

(b) Our Commissioner is in touch with the Malayan Government in the

matter and suitable steps will no doubt be taken if the bill envisages any discrimination specially against Indians, which we hope it would not.

Hire Purchase of Sewing Machines

*636. Shri Bahadur Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have evolved a scheme for the supply of sewing machines on hire-purchase basis to the low-income groups;

(b) the number of sewing machines that have been ordered with the Ludhiana Sewing Machines Industries Corporation, and

(c) the number of sewing machines purchased so far from the Usha Sewing Machine concern?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. The scheme is operated through the National Small Industries Corporation (Private) Limited.

(b) 1,000

(c) 1,580

Import of Milk-Powder from the U.S.A.

*637. { Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to buy milk-powder from the U.S.A.,

(b) if so, the quantity to be purchased, and

(c) the special consideration, if any, which have weighed with Government in making this deal?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 15,000 tons during a period of three years beginning from 1st July, 1956.