

(b) A complaint was received from one of the Indian employees during 1953.

(c) Government did make an enquiry and the allegations made in the complaint were found baseless.

Workers in Rayon Factories

*1646. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey undertaken to study the deleterious effect on the health of workers in Rayon factories has since been completed;

(b) whether a copy of the report of the survey will be laid on the Table; and

(c) what action Government propose to take on the report?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Not yet.

(b) Copies will be supplied to the Parliament Library as usual, as soon as the Report becomes available.

(c) The matter will be considered on receipt of the results of the survey.

Spurious Khadi

*1647. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken to eliminate spurious khadi getting into the certified khadi depots; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There is a system of certification of khadi under which certificates are issued only to such public charitable institutions or co-operative societies as are formed only for the propagation of handspinning or handweaving and have no interest in the mill industry. Weavers are registered for getting the yarn woven into cloth. Weavers who use mill yarn are not registered. Periodical inspections are made so as to ensure that no mill yarn is used.

Under the above arrangements it is normally difficult for spurious khadi

to enter the certified khadi sales depots, which are required to purchase khadi only from certified production centres. Any default in this respect results in the cancellation of the Certificate.

In addition, the provisions of the Khaddar (Protection of Name) Act, 1950, serves as a deterrent to the sale of spurious Khadi.

Dandakaranya Rehabilitation Scheme

*1649. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since approved of the Dandakaranya scheme for the rehabilitation of East Bengal displaced persons;

(b) if so, whether any agency has been set up to execute that scheme;

(c) whether Government have sanctioned any grant for commencing the execution of that scheme; and

(d) if so, the amount sanctioned for that purpose?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Government have generally approved of the idea of developing the area called Dandakaranya.

(b) to (d). A Chief Executive Officer is to be appointed shortly who will arrange for a detailed survey of the selected areas with the help of a team of experts. On receipt of the report of this officer, proposals regarding the machinery to be set up to develop these areas together with an estimate of the cost will be formulated.

Development Works in Nepal

*1650. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Mohan Swarup:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any negotiations are being carried on by Nepal with India

and U.S.A., to have an agreement to pool their resources and efforts to carry on some developmental work in Nepal;

(b) if so, the nature of work that is proposed to be undertaken; and

(c) the financial aspect of the question?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) to (c). There is no proposal for the general pooling of resources, as suggested. In regard, however, to construction of some roads in Nepal, there is a proposal to have an agreement between the Governments of India, Nepal and the United States of America. The Government of India's contribution in this matter has not yet been finalised. Whatever this may be, it will have to come out of the total economic aid of rupees ten crores which has already been promised to Nepal. No additional contribution is contemplated.

Silk

*1651. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether large stock of silk produced by the Co-operative Societies in Andhra Pradesh is lying unsold; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same and the steps taken to give relief to the Co-operative Societies?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) The reference presumably is to silk handloom fabrics. If so, Government have not received any reports of large accumulated stocks.

(b) Does not arise.

Aid for Industrial Development

1428. **Shri Sugandhi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to Demand No. 2, Industrial Development Grants to Private Parties on page 13 of 'Demands for Grants for the year 1957-

58', Vol. I and lay a statement showing the names of parties and the amount paid to each of them by the Government of India as grants in the Karnatak Districts of Bijapur, Dharwar and Belgaum during the years 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): No grants were paid to private parties in the Districts of Bijapur, Dharwar and Belgaum during these years.

Self Sufficiency in Essential Medical Equipment

1429. **Shri D. S. Raju:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which India is self-sufficient in essential medical equipment such as surgical equipment, X-Ray films and photographic material; and

(b) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The entire requirements of X-ray film and other photographic materials are met by imports. Certain types of surgical equipment are being manufactured on a small scale but the country has still to depend to a large extent on imports.

(b) The National Industrial Development Corporation are examining a scheme to set up a factory for the manufacture of cine and X-Ray films and photographic paper in collaboration with a foreign firm.

A Panel set up by Government has examined the possibilities of manufacturing Surgical Appliances in India and has made certain recommendations. These are under examination.

Skilled Workers

1431. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is dearth of skilled and highly skilled workers in the country; and