

(b) How many workers have been unemployed as a result of the closure?

(c) What was the production in 1952 and 1953 up to the day of closure?

(d) Do Government propose to take any steps to re-open the Mills?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) The mills are reported to be in financial difficulties. The machinery is old and worn out.

(b) 1,000.

(c) 1952, 5.5 million yards of cloth and 1.64 million lbs. of yarn.

1953, 2.3 million yards of cloth and .4 million lbs. of yarn. Yarn figures are only for first three months of 1953.

(d) The matter is under correspondence with the Government of Madhya Bharat.

FORWARD CONTRACTS REGULATION ACT

*1355. **Shri Mulchand Dube:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forward Contracts Regulation Act has been implemented in any area in the country;

(b) what steps, if any, have been taken towards the enforcement of this Act; and

(c) whether it is proposed to apply the Act to the bullion markets at Kanpur and other places in the country?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Forward Markets Commission has been established and the selection of com-

modities and the areas to which the regulatory provisions of the Act should be applied is under consideration.

TIN CAN FACTORIES

*1356. **Shri K. K. Basu:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are re-assessing the production capacity of the Tin Can factories;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the re-assessed production capacity of the Tin Can factories is different from their previously assessed production capacity;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the basis for the assessment of production capacity of Tin Can factories has been amended or varied; and

(f) if so, from which date?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) to (f). In the past, industrial units which came into operation before the 20th March 1950, were eligible for the allotment of tin plate or any other category of steel. In view of the comparatively easy supply position of tin plate and certain other items of steel, it was recently decided to consider for allotment of these materials factories expanded or newly set up between the 20th March 1950 and 31st March 1952. This necessitated the assessment of the capacity of a number of factories. As several representations were received from the industry against the existing basis of allotment, advantage was taken of this opportunity to reassess the capacity of all the older factories after a close study of the operations of the various machines used in can-making. In most of the cases the reassessed capacity is different from