

(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

the original capacity, and allotments on the basis of the revised assessed capacity will be made from quarter April-June 1954.

HANDLOOM WEAVERS

*1357. **Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the amounts given to Andhra and Madras States from the Handloom Fund for giving relief to the weavers?

(b) Is the relief intended for weavers covered by co-operatives only or for all the weavers?

(c) What instructions have been issued to the State Governments regarding giving relief to the weavers from this fund?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) Madras: Rs. 76,11,815.

Andhra Rs. 36,90,925.

This does not include the amount of Rs. 10 lakhs given to Madras State as a special loan for installing a co-operative Spinning Mill at Tirunelveli from General Revenues.

(b) This is left to the discretion of the State Governments; but as far as possible financial assistance is rendered to the State for schemes sponsored through the medium of Co-operative Societies.

(c) The State Governments have been advised to submit schemes for the development of the handloom industry based on the general principles laid down in this behalf by the All-India Handloom Board, a copy of which was laid on the Table of the House on the 16th November, 1953, in reply to starred question No. 2.

COTTON YARN

*1358. **Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether cotton yarn production in the country has increased?

(b) Is it a fact that owing to the surplus position of yarn Government have permitted export of cotton yarn to other countries?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what is the number of bales and the various counts of yarn that have been permitted for export?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) Production is on the increase.

(b) Exports of a limited quantity have been permitted to reduce the pressure of stocks on mills.

(c) 21,000 bales of counts upto 36s and 4,000 bales in counts above 36s but below 80s approximately for each half year of 1953.

WATER SUPPLY TO LAJPAT NAGAR

*1359. **Shri Nand Lal Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to refer to starred question No. 1239 given on 17th December, 1952 and state whether the commitment of Government regarding filtered water supply to Lajpat Nagar has been carried out and whether the water has been made available to the residents of Lajpat Nagar by now?

(b) If not, what are the reasons for the delay and when do Government expect to provide the water supply?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The first phase of the water supply scheme has been completed and filtered water supply for Lajpat Nagar is available. The supply has to be given through the Local Body and negotiations in this behalf through the State Government are expected to be completed shortly.

WATER SUPPLY TO LAJPAT NAGAR

*1360. **Shri Nand Lal Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the New Delhi Municipal Committee are insisting upon installation