

## INDIA UNITED MILLS, BOMBAY

\*264. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the case of India United Mills of Bombay was referred to the Central Advisory Council of Industries for advice as to the action to be taken?

(b) If so, what was the advice tendered by them?

(c) What action do Government propose to take in this connection?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Industries Advisors' Council desired that some further investigation was necessary before final recommendation could be made to Government. Accordingly, a Sub-Committee was constituted to make further investigation into the affairs of this Mill. This committee is expected to submit its report shortly.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** What is the actual condition of the mills today? Are they working or not?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** All the six units comprised in this mill are working.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Some time in 1944 or 1945, the then Industries and Supply Minister, the late Shri Akbar Hydari, accompanied by the then Secretary of the Department, Shri H. M. Patel, went down to Bombay and a declaration almost putting the India United Mills out of bounds in the sense that a Government Director was appointed. I want to know from the Government what steps they have taken since then to enforce their regulations against this group despite Government having their big Textile Directorate in Bombay all these years.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I am rather weak in the matter of the history of textile mills in India. I am therefore unable to answer the question.

## EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS

\*266. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Governments of India and Pakistan have decided to exchange prisoners who were taken into custody during Kashmir operations from October, 1947 to January, 1949; and

(b) if so, the number of prisoners involved on both sides?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) It was decided in April, 1950 to carry out a general exchange of Indian and Pakistani prisoners taken during the military operations in Kashmir from October, 1947 to January 1949. As a result of this, prisoners were exchanged.

At a later stage some other personnel who had crossed the cease-fire line and had been made prisoners on either side were exchanged.

At the recent meetings of the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan, it was decided to exchange any remaining prisoners.

(b) The total number of prisoners held by each side now is:

(i) In India's custody at Jammu.	
Pakistan Army	... 8
Azad Kashmir Force	... 22
Northern Scouts	... 5
Total	... 35

(ii) In Pakistan custody at Lahore.	
Indian Army	... 9
J & K Militia	... 2
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Total	... 13

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the period during which this exchange of prisoners is likely to be completed and whether there has been any case on either side in which any prisoner has refused repatriation?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I cannot say with certainty. It is possible, if