

(b) Burmah-Shell refinery is expected to produce about 1,50,000 tons of asphalt (bitumen) per annum. This product will not be available from the other two refineries which are being set up in India.

Shri N. M. Lingam: In view of the programme of the Government to black-top the surface of all the National and State highways, do Government think that the internal production will adequately meet our requirements?

Shri R. G. Dubey: Yes, Sir. The production for the year 1955 is 1,50,000 tons whereas the requirements for the year are 1,36,958 tons.

Shri N. M. Lingam: My point is this. We are black-topping only a fraction of the total mileage of our roads. In view of the increased use of asphalt (bitumen), are Government satisfied that the production in the refineries will meet our demand?

Shri R. G. Dubey: Yes, Sir. This calculation is made after considering all these aspects by the Works, Housing and Supply Ministry.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Is bitumen expected to be made available as a bye-product from the lignite projector in South Arcot?

Shri R. G. Dubey: No, Sir; that is difficult to answer now.

Dhoties

*314. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any prosecution has been launched for violation of the control order restricting the manufacture of *dhoties* to 60 per cent.; and

(b) the additional tax collected or levied so far, from the delinquent mills after the promulgation of the ordinance and the subsequent passing of the relevant Act?

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

(b) The additional tax realised during the period 26th October 1953 to 31st December, 1953 was Rs. 3,22,000/-.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know, Sir, how many mills transgressed the provision of the law in 1953?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, during the period under review, i.e., 26th October to 31st December, the number of mills that produced under 12½ per cent. is 35 and over 12½ per cent., 10

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Was any action taken against them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In these cases, the penal excise duty is levied.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the mills which have transgressed this law have been asked to reduce their production in the subsequent months so that the overall percentage may remain in a year?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The assessment is made on the basis of a quarter.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether the additional tax realised was given to the village industries or was absorbed in the general revenues?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: To the best of my knowledge, Sir, it goes into the Consolidated Fund of India.

BHAKRA-NANGAL PROJECT

*315. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government are carrying out a survey of the direct benefits of the Bhakra-Nangal Project;

(b) if so, what is the scope and aim of this survey; and

(c) what will be its cost?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the survey of direct benefits of