

(c) Government are not aware of any Continental country having recently started jute mills. On the other hand, it is reported that Continental manufacturers have recently curtailed their production.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know which are the countries that have now started production or manufacture of Hessian jute?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

PRODUCTION IN SINDRI FACTORY

*1055. **Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the date when the factory is expected to go into full production of 1000 tons of Ammonium Sulphate per day; and

(b) the factors which stand in the way of reaching the target production at an early date?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Attention is invited to the replies given to part (e) of Starred Question No. 444 by Dr. M. M. Das on the 4th June 1952.

(b) The usual teething troubles which are inevitable in a complex Chemical Factory of the magnitude of the Sindri Fertilizer Factory. These are being gradually overcome.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: May I know, Sir, whether the production in Sindri is less than the production in a private-owned factory in Travancore-Cochin?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member presumably refers to Alwaye.

Shri K. C. Reddy: I do not know, Sir, if the supplementary actually arises out of this. But in any case I think there is no comparison between a big factory like Sindri Fertilizer Factory and a small factory like Alwaye.

श्री गणपति राम : क्या गवर्नमेंट उन गरीब किसानों को फर्टिलाइजर्स कंसेशन रेट पर दे सकती है या उनको बोने के समय देकर हावैस्ट के टाइम में उनकी कीमत बसूल कर सकती है ?

Shri K. C. Reddy: As I already replied the previous question, this question is dealt with by the State Govern-

ments and at what period of time this is supplied to the agriculturists, I am not in a position to say now.

LABOURERS UNDER INDIAN TEA ASSOCIATION

*1056. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state what are the food concessions allowed to the labourers working under the Indian Tea Association?

(b) Is it proposed to withdraw that concession and if so, why?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) A statement showing the food concessions allowed to workers employed on estates under the Indian Tea Association is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 44.]

(b) For some time past, the employers have been pressing for conversion of food concessions into cash on the ground that supplies of foodgrains are not regularly made available to them at convenient centres and at controlled rates for distribution to workers and that the present practice involves the industry in a large expenditure. The question has been considered at more than one tripartite conference, but no agreement could be reached between the employers and workers. Consequent on the recent fall in tea prices, the Indian Tea Association has reiterated the demand for conversion of those concessions into cash and the matter is under consideration.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know, Sir, as it appears from the statement that the quantity of food stuff supplied to these workers is not enough, whether any extra quantity of other food articles is also allowed and if that is so, what is that quantity allowed?

Shri V. V. Giri: I would be glad to have notice.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What is the amount of D.A. that is proposed to be given in case this concession is withdrawn?

Shri V. V. Giri: I cannot give a definite answer to this question because there is still a good deal of discussion to take place between the parties on this matter.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know what is the proposal?

Shri V. V. Giri: There are many proposals—I will not be able to say anything definitely at present.