

Prototype Industry in Bombay

*244. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Bombay have requested the Central Government to set up a prototype industry in Bombay; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). No such representation has been received in recent years from Government of Bombay. Already a Proto-type Production-cum-Training Centre has been started at Rajkot in Bombay State, with financial and technical assistance from the Technical Co-operation Mission of the U.S.A.

Shri Pangarkar: May I know whether the Indo-German prototype production-cum-training centre has been set up at Okhla?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That has been set up at Okhla as the House is already aware

Export of Textiles to Burma

*245. **Shri Kadiyan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that textile exports to Burma have gone down considerably during the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps, if any, taken by Government to arrest the falling trend in the exports?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Burmese barter agreements and Burmese restrictions on the imports of handloom cloth.

(c) Participation in tripartite arrangements, involving supplies of cotton textiles against import of U.S. cottons by Burma; opening the office

of the Textile Export Promotion Council at Rangoon; persuading Burmese authorities to widen scope of imports of cotton textiles on multi-lateral basis.

Shri Kadiyan: What was the quantity of textile exports to Burma during the last three years and their value?

Shri Kanungo: In 1956 it was 17 million yards, in 1957 it was 39 million yards, in 1958 it was 4 million and odd, and in 1959 January-July it was 15 million and odd.

Shri Kadiyan: May I know whether the Government proposes to set up any organisation for the promotion of textile exports to Burma?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, Sir. As I mentioned in the answer, the Export Promotion Council has opened an office in Rangoon, and as a matter of fact, the export to Burma between January and July 1959 is heartening.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Has the Government reviewed the position as to the kind of patterns and the kind of weaves that are most acceptable to Burma so as to arrest this fall? Has any team been sent out to do this?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, Sir. Several delegations have gone there, and as a result of this effort, the exports during the period January-July 1959 have gone up

Shri Kadiyan: May I know whether Government have any proposal to enter into a trade agreement with Burma with regard to the export of textiles?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, we have a trade agreement with Burma, and as I have said in reply to the main question, efforts are always made to persuade the Burmese Government to increase their multilateral trading.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: In view of the fact that Burma is one of our traditional markets for textiles, may I know what steps Government are taking to increase the export of textiles by offering competitive prices?

Mr. Speaker: He has stated it already in answer to part (c) of the main question

He wants to know if prices have been brought down so as to make them competitive

Shri Kanungo: Well, prices are competitive, otherwise there will not be greater purchase in the meantime

Surplus Labour

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*246. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri Chuni Lal:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state-

(a) whether Government have prepared any plan regarding the utilisation of surplus labour,

(b) if so, the nature of the plan, and

(c) how is that plan being implemented?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) Yes

(b) The plan is to report the particulars of surplus workers to State Co-ordinating Units and to a Central Office specially set up to locate vacancies and arrange for the deployment of workers

(c) Selection Teams of the appointing authorities visit the Project Sites, interview the workers and select the suitable ones

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government have assessed the quantum of surplus labour that exists in the country? In what way is the machinery recently set up to utilise the surplus labour different from the machinery which already existed?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It is fluctuating. Sir Surplus labour come out when the projects are completed I cannot give any exact figure, but till now

there has been about 47,000 or so of surplus labour and we have provided jobs for 18,000. We hope that as soon as the projects are completed and people are surplus, this machinery will try to provide jobs for them

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is there any proposal to change the outlook of the persons who possess this surplus labour rather than go on providing and creating more jobs which generally does not change the outlook?

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): There is no question of outlook here. We have a project. The construction period lasts two years, four years, whatever it might be. At the end of this process of construction these people have to go somewhere else. We anticipate these surpluses and try to provide for the surplus workers in different places because we have a machinery in the various States to assess the future requirements of new projects and also the manner in which the number will decline in the existing projects, and we try to match these requirements

Shri Palaniyandy: Most of the employment exchanges are having only unskilled workers in their lists. Is Government taking any speedy action to have more training centres?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It is not a fact. Employment exchanges have also skilled workers on their lists, and they try to get jobs for them

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know if it is a fact that skilled and unskilled labour both to the tune of one crore is surplus?

Shri L. N. Mishra: Yes. Both skilled and unskilled labour are surplus

Shri Braj Raj Singh: To the tune of one crore?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It is not a fact. Only 47,000 people are surplus as a result of completion of about six or seven projects, and we have tried to provide for about 18,000