

N.E.F.A.

***406. Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handicraft Training Centres so far opened in the North Eastern Frontier Agency;

(b) whether any attempt has been made to so organise the training in North Eastern Frontier Agency as to keep intact their old and indigenous handicrafts?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) Twenty One.

(b) Yes Sir. The Administration lays stress on the preservation of indigenous crafts and local designs.

Trivandrum Rubber Factory

***407. Shri Easwara Iyer:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the possibility of expanding the present rubber factory at Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, what is the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). Messrs Travancore Rubber Works, Trivandrum have been recently granted a licence under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act for expanding their production of cycle tyres and tubes, hoses, Latex goods, Vee and Fan belts.

Finance Corporation for Handloom Industry

***408. Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Government has proposed a Finance Corporation for the development of handloom industry; and

(b) if so, the contribution, if any, asked from the Centre for the said Finance Corporation?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Recruitment of Tea-garden Labour

***409. Shri Ghosal:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recruitment of labour for tea-gardens is made under the rules and provisions of the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act;

(b) whether the recruitment of labour for tea gardens has been stopped;

(c) whether the Tea Districts Labour Association is an organisation for the recruitment of labour for tea gardens specially for those owned by the English Companies; and

(d) if so, whether there has been any heavy retrenchment in the Tea Districts Labour Association?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Recruitment of labour for tea gardens in Assam from outside the State is regulated by the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act, 1932.

(b) No.

(c) The Association recruits labour for tea gardens mostly owned by English Companies.

(d) According to available information, 130 employees were retrenched on 1.1.1957 while 120 are to be retrenched on or before 31.5.57 and another 20 on 30.6.57.

Displaced Persons from East Pakistan

***410. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme in conjunction with the States of Orissa, Andhra and Madhya Pradesh is worked in the Malkangiri area of Koraput District (Orissa) to re-settle

3000 displaced persons from East Pakistan;

(b) whether a committee of experts have visited the area in the second week of May, 1957; and

(c) whether it has sent any report on the feasibility of the working of the scheme?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) to (c). A preliminary scheme for the resettlement of about 3,000 displaced families from East Pakistan in the Malkangiri area of Koraput district in Orissa has been sanctioned. The area forms part of the large contiguous tract in the three States of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Andhra, the possibilities of development of which are at present being examined by a high-level Committee. The Committee accompanied by technical experts visited this area in the first week of May, 1957. It has still to visit some other areas. The Committee has not yet submitted its recommendations.

Export of Coir Products

***413. Shri Kumaran:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any positive steps to increase India's export of coir products; and

(b) if so, the results thereof, country-wise?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir. The Coir Board is organising publicity and propaganda for coir and coir goods in foreign countries by participating in Exhibitions and Fairs, and advertisements, in papers. The Government of India are also persuading foreign Governments to permit import of coir products at the time of conclusion of trade agreements.

(b) It is too early to evaluate the results of these steps.

Wage Board for Cotton Textiles

***414. Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wage Board appointed for Cotton Textile Industry has powers to co-opt members; and

(b) whether Government propose to appoint Regional Boards?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to appoint Regional Boards but the Wage Board will be free to co-opt members for considering regional matters, whenever necessary.

Export of Manganese and Iron Ores

***415. Shri Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation is exporting mostly high grade manganese ore;

(b) the ratio of high grade ore to low grade of manganese and iron ores exported by the State Trading Corporation since it took up the trade;

(c) whether the State Trading Corporation propose to export manganese and iron ores to a particular country or countries; and

(d) whether there is a danger of concentration on high grade ores resulting in dislocation of business amongst producers and consequent unemployment in the mines?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Exact percentages are not available. Less than 1/3rds of the State Trading Corporation's exports of manganese ore are of the high grade variety. Only small quantities of high grade iron ore are being exported: a very large proportion of exports consists of medium grades. The