

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) It is a fact that the biri companies in Singhbhum district, Bihar deduct the number of biris produced by the Biri workers on the ground that biris deducted are of poor quality; but it is not true that these poor quality biris are not destroyed and are being mixed back with good ones.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise; in view of the answers to (a) and (b) above.

#### Export of Shoes

**3799. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been urged by the Agra Shoe Manufacturers Association to revise its policy on the export of shoes so that the exporters could compete with Pakistani, Italian and Hong Kong exporters in the West Asian markets; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) and (b). Certain points concerning the export of shoes were raised by the President of the Agra Shoe Manufacturers' Association in his speech delivered at the 20th Annual General Meeting of the Association held on the 29th April, 1962, but no specific communication on this subject has been received by Government.

#### Working Hours of Press Employees in Tripura

**3800. Shri Biren Dutta:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees of the Press in Tripura are employed from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and again from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to remove the inconvenient system?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):** (a) No. The Tripura Administration Press works in two shifts, as under:—

*1st Shift.*

*Monday to Friday*—8 a.m. to 3-30 p.m. with half an hour's break at 12-00 noon.

*Saturday*—8-00 a.m. to 1-00 p.m.

*2nd Shift.*

*Monday to Friday*—3-30 p.m. to 11-00 p.m. with half an hour's break at 6-00 p.m.

*Saturday*—1-00 p.m. to 6-00 p.m. The employees are divided into two batches to work in each shift by rotation every four weeks.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Small Scale Industries

**3801. Shri Kolla Venkaiah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Small Scale Industries Board had recommended to the Government of India for enlargement of the definition to cover small units with capital assets between Rs. 5 lakhs and 10 lakhs;

(b) the reasons adduced by the Board for increasing the ceiling; and

(c) the action taken by Government?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table.

## STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) There has been a steady increase in the cost of machinery and other capital assets. To meet higher capital requirements all round in adopting modern technical and managerial processes and to meet the quality requirements of the highly competitive export markets in which Small Scale Industries were also expected to make substantial sales during the Third Plan period, the Small Scale Industries needed a higher capital investment.

(ii) The differentiation according to the present definition between ancillary and non-ancillary industries presented considerable administrative difficulties as it had been found practically impossible to decide whether a particular unit was an ancillary unit.

(iii) Government has decided to exempt all units having capital investment up to Rs. 10 lakhs from the obligation to obtain licence under the Industries Development and Regulation Act.

(c) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

## Coir Industry in Kerala

3802. { Shri Vasudevan Nair:  
Shri Warior:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India are aware that the Kerala Government recently convened a conference at Alleppey to discuss problems concerning the coir industry;

(b) if so, whether Government of India have received any reports about the outcome of the conference; and

(c) whether Government will lay on the Table a statement containing the main decisions of the conference?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table.

## STATEMENT

The following main decisions were arrived at in the Conference held at Alleppey on 2-5-1962:—

(i) A committee be constituted to study the problems relating to stabilisation and development of the factory sector of Coir Industry;

(ii) Another Committee be constituted to draw up a programme of starting new industries in the Coastal areas of the Alleppey District; and

(iii) A Third Committee be constituted to go into the question of unemployment in the coastal areas of Alleppey and to draw up a programme of rural development works to be implemented immediately.

It was also resolved that in all the Committees, officers connected with the different aspects of the work involved may also be included.

## Techno-Economic Survey of Assam

3803. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1657 on the 21st May, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the Report on the Techno-Economic Survey of Assam has since been published;

(b) if so, whether the survey reveals a tremendous potential for the development of paper and rayon industries in Assam; and

(c) whether schemes have been drawn up for the proper development