

(b) if so, whether some mills have stopped producing the quality and design of cloth which were less paying and increased the qualities that pay them more in violation thereof; and

(c) whether this change in the policy of Mill Owners is responsible for the decrease in the export of Textile Goods?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) to (c). There is no agreement as such by the Textile Commissioner with the Mill Owners Federation. However, as a result of the discussions which had taken place between the Indian Cotton Mills Federation and the Government in 1960, a voluntary price control scheme was adopted by the Federation and announced with the approval of the Government. The question of maintaining *status quo* was not mentioned in the voluntary price control scheme. Government had given detailed information about the voluntary scheme in the Statement in Lok Sabha on the 21st December, 1960.

New sorts may be produced by any mill after getting permission from the Price Fixation Committee.

Government do not consider that this has affected the exports of cotton textiles in any way.

#### **Air-Conditioned Cinema at Agartala**

**3814. Shri Biren Dutta:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether a contract has been entered into with a party to start an air-conditioned cinema at Agartala;

(b) if so, whether any working order has been issued to the party; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Sham Nath):** (a) No, Sir.

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

#### **Industries in Public Sector in H.P.**

**3815. Shri Mohammad Elias:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up any industries in the public sector in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are these industries proposed to be set up?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 102].

#### **Industrial Disputes in Himachal Pradesh**

**3816. Shri Mohammad Elias:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) how many industrial disputes are pending before the District Magistrates for conciliation and settlement in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) for how long these disputes are pending?

**The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi):** (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Nepa Mills**

**3817.** { Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri Pottakkatt:  
Shri Warrior:

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

(a) the estimated loss suffered by the NEPA Mills due to infructuous expenditure undertaken by the previous Managing Agents;

(b) what action Government have taken against the Managing Agents to recover the huge amounts;

(c) who was responsible for appointing the Managing Agents; and

(d) whether any inquiry was conducted to find out their financial stability?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) to (d). The Nepa Mills was established as a private enterprise in January 1947 by M's Nair Press Syndicate Ltd. As the Managing Agents were unable to find necessary finances for the project, they approached the Government of Madhya Pradesh who agreed to undertake the financial responsibility provided the Managing Agents vacated office. Accordingly the Managing Agents vacated office in October 1949 and an officer of the Government of M.P. was appointed as Managing Director of the company. The Managing Agency agreement was also terminated.

Subsequently it was found that the Managing Agents were guilty of mismanagement of company's funds and other irregularities during their tenure of the Managing Agency. This was estimated at Rs. 20 lakhs. No action could be taken by the company as the ex-Managing Agents became insolvent.

In view of the above, the question of responsibility for appointing the Managing Agents or for not holding any prior enquiry to find out their financial stability does not arise.

#### **Industrial Units in Andhra Pradesh**

**3818. Shri M. K. Kumaran:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Czechoslovakia has made an offer of collaboration in setting up a number of small and medium scale industrial units in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have considered the same and the decision taken in the matter?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry**

**(Shri Kanungo):** (a) to (c). No, Sir. No such offer has been received from Czechoslovakia.

#### **Press Institute in India**

**3819. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Press Institute in India on the lines of the Press Institute in U.S.A.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not; the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Sham Nath):** (a) to (c). A proposal for the setting up of an Institute of Journalism in India for imparting higher professional training to journalists and to run refresher courses for working journalists has been under consideration of Government and the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society. Details have not yet been worked out.

#### **Conference of Indian Envoys in West Asian Region**

**3820. { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:  
Dr. L. M. Singhvi;  
Shri Hem Barua:  
Shri M. K. Kumaran:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1010 on the 24th May, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the conference of Indian envoys in the West Asian region was held on the scheduled dates;

(b) how many envoys attended the conference and how many were absent; and

(c) the outcome of the discussions held at the conference?

**The Prime Minister & Minister of External Affairs and Minister of**