

The project is expected to be completed by the end of 1962.

Industrial Zones of Bihar and Orissa

2253. **Shri H. C. Soy:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the industrial zones of Bihar and Orissa are equally rich in forest products viz., timber, bamboo, sawai grass and other products;

(b) whether it is a fact that progress made to develop cottage and small-scale industries based on these products has been very poor;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to draw up comprehensive schemes to accelerate the progress in this sphere; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of cottage and small industrial units consuming forest products have come up, although the progress in this field has been slow.

(c) and (d). As a result of the surveys carried out in these two States, following new industries have been suggested for the development of cottage and small scale industries:—

1. Wool seasoning.
2. Wooden furniture.
3. Joinery.
4. Railway wagon components and sleepers.
5. Tanning dyes.
6. Distillation of oils.
7. Pharmaceuticals based on herbs and drugs available in the forest of two States.

In addition to the above-mentioned surveys, the National Council of Applied Economic Research have also carried out techno-economic surveys of the two States and their reports have been published.

The Government of Orissa is taking steps for setting up the following industrial units in co-operative fold under Panchayat industries programme:

1. Carpentry Unias.
2. Saw Mills.
3. Wood seasoning plants.

It has also set up two pilot projects for exploitation of forest resources.

The programme for Bihar is under preparation.

Production of Tasar Cloth in Bihar

2251. **Shri H. C. Soy:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chotanagpur district in Bihar is a large cocoon producing area and that weaving of 'tasar' cloth is an indigenous industry; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to consume this production of cocoon locally and to encourage and develop the indigenous weavers?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The State Government of Bihar, with financial assistance from the Government of India, have implemented a number of schemes with a view to encouraging the reelers and spinners to utilise the cocoons locally. There are five training-cum-production centres for tasar reeling and spinning—two in Singhum district, one in Hazaribagh district, one in Santhal Parganas and one in Monghyr district. These Centres are in the nature of peripatetic demonstration parties. 200 persons were trained in tasar reeling and spinning during the Second Plan under this scheme. The State Government is also imparting training in tasar

reeling and spinning at the Government Silk Institute, Bhagalpur. During the Second Plan 195 persons were trained in this Institute. The State Government has purchased 55 improved tasar reeling machines and 33 tasar spinning machines for distribution among the trained persons on 50 per cent. subsidy basis. In addition, a regular training programme in spinning and reeling has been in operation in all the tasar production centres, asseed stations and other departmental units in the State. During the Second Plan period over 8,000 persons are reported to have been trained under this programme. The State Government has also organised mobile tasar silk weaving tutorial classes in 5 important centres for imparting training in weaving.

The State Government proposes to set up more Training-cum-production Centres and Co-operative Societies in the districts of Singhbhum, Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Dhanbad, Palamau and Santhal Parganas during the remaining period of the Third Plan, so as to use cocoons locally in all its manufacturing processes, including weaving of cloth.

National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.

2256. { Shri Kashi Ram Gupta;
Shri Rameshwar Tantia;
Shri R. Barua:

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

(a) the different kinds of machineries that are supplied to small-scale industries through the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.;

(b) whether it is a fact that as late as 1st August, 1961 the ceiling was raised to Rs. 5,25,000 for giving printing machinery on hire-purchase by the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. on a representation by the All India Federation of Master Printers;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the National Small Industries Corporation

has, immediately thereafter, banned the supply of printing machinery on hire-purchase basis; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) The Corporation supplies industry machinery and machine tools required mainly for the manufacture of consumer goods and spare parts.

(b) With effect from the 30th May, 1961, the ceiling for supply of printing machinery was raised from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 52,500 (and not Rs. 5,25,000) in view of the additional incidence of customs duty on imported machinery.

(c) The ban was imposed only in January, 1962.

(d) The ban was considered necessary in view of the fact that there has been very rapid expansion in the printing industry in the small scale sector and the existing capacity was considered adequate.

Companies Act

2257. { Shri Himmatsinhji;
Shrimati Gayatri Devi;
Shri P. C. Borooah:

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

(a) whether Government are contemplating any change in the Companies Act; and

(b) if so, on what lines?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Not at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Acetate Flake Production Project in Mysore

2258. Shrimati Sarojini Mahishi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any application has been received for setting up a project in