

Branches of Ashoka Hotels Ltd.

10. **Shri Mate:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of opening few branches of Ashoka Hotels; and

(b) if so, where?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Difficulties of Coir Manufacturers

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the difficulties experienced by coir matting manufacturers with regard to freight and space;

(b) whether Government are aware that coir matting sector has completely closed down in many factories due to this reason; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to help the manufacturers in this regard?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question of reducing the shipping freight rates levied on coir mats and mattings has been taken up with the Conference Lines concerned. There is at present not much difficulty in getting the required shipping space.

Industrial Licences in Maharashtra

12. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of industrial licences applied for by individuals and firms in Maharashtra and number of these in Vidarbha area in 1961-62;

(b) how many of them have been granted licences;

(c) the names of the persons and firms which have been granted licences so far and for what type of industries; and

(d) the number of application rejected?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). 1005 individuals and firms applied for licences in Maharashtra under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, during 1961-62 and 286 out of them were granted licences. Information as to how many of these applications relates to the Vidarbha area is not readily available.

(c) A statement is laid on the the Table. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-262/62].

(d) 294 applications were rejected.

Small Scale Industries in Maharashtra

13. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to develop the small scale industries in Vidarbha area of Maharashtra;

(b) whether a survey of the existing small scale industries has been taken;

(c) if so, the nature of the survey; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 5].