

consumed by the paper industry is being imported.

(b) and (c). There are certain species of trees such as Eucalyptus, salai, spruce and fir, etc. in the country which are suitable for manufacturing wood pulp and all possible steps are being taken to increase their plantation which can yield the quantity of pulp required to meet the demand of the Paper Industry as far as possible.

Loans from Rehabilitation Industries Corporation

368. { Shri B. K. Das:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that industrial concerns receiving loan from the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation have not been able to employ the requisite number of displaced persons in their concerns as per terms of the loan; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons of such failure?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Out of the 17 industrial concerns who have so far received loans from Rehabilitation Industries Corporation, only 4 have not been able to employ the requisite number of displaced persons according to the terms of the loan.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I annexure No. 44.]

Newsprint Factory in Kangra, Punjab

369. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Narendra Singh Mahida:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

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

(a) whether any survey has been made about the forest wealth in the

Himalayan Beas Basin for assessing the availability of soft wood for the proposed newsprint factory in the Kangra District of Punjab;

(b) if so, the result of the survey;

(c) who conducted the survey; and

(d) whether proposed foreign collaborators also joined the survey?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (d). Certain estimates of the availability of soft woods in the Himalayan Beas Basin have been made by the State Forest authorities. Besides, two Finnish experts were also invited to report on the availability of soft woods in this area. The results are encouraging. On these basis, a licence for the manufacture of newsprint in Punjab has been issued to a private party whose foreign collaborators also are likely to make another survey shortly.

Small Scale Industries Boards

370. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

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

(a) whether the Small Scale Industries Boards have been constituted in all the States;

(b) the objects of setting up such boards; and

(c) how these boards will function?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Most of the states have constituted Small Scale and Handicrafts Boards. Some of the States have, however, set up Co-ordination Committees for Development of Handicrafts and Small Scale industries.