

Radio Station at Jodhpur

710. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) when it is proposed to complete the arrangements for Radio Broadcasting station in Jodhpur; and

(b) what are the reasons for delay in starting the station?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri Sham Nath): (a) A 1 KW Mediumwave Transmitter, with its associated Receiving Centre will be installed at Jodhpur by 1963-64 for relay of Vividh Bharati programmes; it will, however, not be a full-fledged radio station.

(b) There has been no delay in the implementation of this scheme as scheduled.

Price of Imported Silk

711. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mysore Government have approached the Central Government to raise the price of imported silk or to buy the Indian silk at cost price;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) what are the causes of the high cost of production of Indian silk;

(d) what are the recommendations of the Central Silk Board in the matter; and

(e) whether a detailed statement would be laid on the Table explaining the policy of Central Government?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) (b), (d) and (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The high cost of production of raw silk in India is due to the poor

quality of indigenous cocoons. Efforts are under way to improve its quality and reduce the cost of all levels of production.

STATEMENT

Imports of raw silk have been canalised through the agency approved by Government since 1955. At present imports are arranged by the State Trading Corporation of India Limited, and its distribution is done by the Central Silk Board. Imported raw silk is released at prices fixed by Government from time to time, while indigenous silk is marketed through normal trade channels. The Mysore Government have represented to the Government of India that they are finding it difficult to market their flature silk at economic rates and have to dispose it of at a price lower than its cost of production

In order to step up exports and to overcome the lacunae in the existing system of sale of indigenous as well as imported raw silk and payment of incentives under the Export Promotion Scheme, the Central Silk Board has formulated an integrated scheme for distribution of indigenous and imported flature raw silk and the promotion of export of silk fabrics.

This 'Draft Scheme' is under the consideration of the Government of India in consultation with the State Governments of Mysore and Jammu and Kashmir. A copy of the scheme when finalised will be placed in the library of Lok Sabha Secretariat

Sub-office of Coal Mines Provident Fund at Kothagudium

712. Dr. U. Mishra: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to open a sub-office of the Coal Mines Provident Fund at Kothagudium;

(b) if so, whether the same has been examined; and

(c) the nature of decision arrived at?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). Yes. Two Regional Offices—one in the State of Andhra Pradesh (Kothagudium) and the other in the State of Madhya Pradesh (Pench Valley Coalfields) are being set up to ensure efficient administration of the Coal Mines Provident Fund in these two States respectively. Two additional posts of Assistant Commissioners Coal Mines Provident Fund have been sanctioned and each Regional Office will be in charge of an Assistant Commissioner, who will work under control and superintendence of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Commissioner, Dhanbad.

Singareni Collieries Company

713. Dr. U. Mishra: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the grounds for the delay in the enforcement of standing orders on the basis of revised model standing orders for Singareni Collieries Company; and

(b) what steps are being taken by the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) in this regard?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a) The employers' and workers' organisations have suggested certain amendments to the revised Model Standing Orders for coal mining industry which are under consideration. The employers are awaiting the results thereof. There has also been no application from the workers' unions to have the Standing Orders modified.

(b) In view of (a) above, the Regional Labour Commissioner cannot take any action under the Act.

Singareni Collieries

714. Shri Eswara Reddy: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of Singareni Collieries Company have violated the arrangement arrived at with the Singareni Collieries Workers' Union that there will not be fresh recruitment of Gorakhpuri workers;

(b) whether the management have also declined to confirm such of the Gorakhpuri workers who expressed their desire to become permanent;

(c) if so, whether the action of the management does not constitute violation of the tripartite and industrial committee's decisions; and

(d) what action is being taken by the Implementation and Evaluation Division of his Ministry in this connection?

The Minister of Labour in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri Hathi): (a) No such agreement has been entered into and the question of its violation does not arise.

(b) No; requests from 4 of the Gorakhpuri workers for confirmation were received and are under consideration of the Management.

(c) and (d): Do not arise.

Cycle Industry

715. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from the Small Scale manufacturers of cycle parts, complaining against present licensing policy of Government that has forced on the small manufacturers an unequal and unhealthy competition with the large scale units;

(b) whether it has been suggested that certain components should be restricted to be manufactured and sold only by Small Scale Units in which Small Scale Sector has specialised;

(c) whether it has also been complained that proper and equitable facilities in the matter of supply of raw material, import and export are