

(b) the efforts, if any, being made to reduce the price of the indigenous newsprint?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Price of indigenous Newsprint-Rs. 1,050 per tonne.

Price of imported Newsprint (C.I.F.) -Varies from Rs. 775 to Rs. 825 per tonne.

(b) The price of indigenous newsprint was fixed at Rs. 1,050 per tonne in 1958. In spite of an all round rise in the cost of production such as raw materials, chemicals, transport, power, labour, coal etc. during the last six years, the price of indigenous newsprint has been retained at Rs. 1,050 without allowing any increase.

Central Cottage Industries Emporium

126. { Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaia:
Shri Y. D. Singh:

Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to hand over the management of the Central Cottage Industries Emporium from the Indian Co-operative Union to a new Society; and

(b) if so, whether the Emporium employees will have continuity and security of service and pay-scales according to the recent recommendations of the IBCON?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir, by a Society to be registered under the Societies Registration Act.

(b) It is Government's intention that the new Society, on its formation, would take over the staff at present working in the Emporium and would protect their interests adequately.

Low Temperature Carbonisation Plant

127. **Shri Eswara Reddy:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether Fuel Research Institute has submitted the project report regarding the setting up of Low Temperature Carbonisation Plant in public sector; and

(b) if not, when it is expected?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) It is expected in about six months' time from now.

Manganese and Iron Ore Mines

128. **Shri Sivamurthi Swamy:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether any department for giving technical advice and service to the mine owners has been set up in the Ministry;

(b) if so, whether any advice or service has been rendered to the iron and manganese mine owners to introduce mechanised extraction of mines to improve the output and lower the cost of mines in the country; and

(c) if not, what other alternative methods are being employed to improve the mining business in the country?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) The Indian Bureau of Mines gives advice and renders service to the Mine owners.

(b) and (c). No general advice specifically to iron and manganese ore mine-owners to introduce mechanised extraction has been given, but advice on mechanisation has been given whenever such problems have arisen for any type of mine including iron and manganese ore mines. Officers of the Indian Bureau of Mines advise the mine-owners on different aspects