

Setting up of Tannery in Gujarat

1408. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is immediate need of setting up a big tannery in Gujarat;

(b) whether at present, the tanners in Gujarat have to send skin and hide collection to Madras for tanning and export purposes; and

(c) the date by which the tannery is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) Adequate tanning capacity is available in the country for processing of raw hides and skins. A number of tanning units are operating in the small scale sector in the State of Gujarat. Government have also granted a Letter of Intent dated 22nd April, 1976 to the Gujarat Agro-Industries Corporation (which has since been transferred to the Gujarat Industrial Investment Corporation Limited, Ahmedabad), for establishment of a new undertaking in the State of Gujarat for the manufacture of finished leather from hides and skins for an annual capacity of 4.8 lakh numbers.

(b) The tanning industry in the country is at present concentrated mostly in the States of Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Punjab. Surplus hides and skins from other States generally move into these areas for tanning/finishing.

(c) The Letter of Intent granted to the Gujarat Industrial Investment Corporation Limited, Ahmedabad is valid upto 21st October, 1977. According to the Corporation the project is likely to be implemented in another year.

New Schemes under R.E.C.

1409. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an additional sum of Rs. 12.37 crores has been sanctioned by the Rural Electrification Corporation for 32 new schemes covering 1,737 villages in 14 States;

(b) if so, the States where electrification is being done under these schemes; and

(c) how much will be spent on electrification of villages in Gujarat under these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Board of Directors of the Rural Electrification Corporation in its meeting held on 30th April, 1977 sanctioned 32 new rural electrification schemes involving a loan assistance of Rs. 10.91 crores envisaging extension of electricity to 1737 villages in 14 States. In the same meeting the Board also approved additional loans amounting to Rs. 1.74 crores for on-going rural electrification projects and Rs. 0.06 crores for extension of electricity to Harijan Bastis. The total loan amount sanctioned by the Board in the meeting amounted to Rs. 12.71 crores.

(b) 32 schemes sanctioned by the Corporation were for rural electrification in the following 14 States:—

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Bihar
3. Gujarat
4. Haryana
5. Himachal Pradesh
6. Jammu & Kashmir
7. Karnataka
8. Kerala
9. Madhya Pradesh
10. Maharashtra
11. Orissa
12. Punjab

13. Tarril Nadu

14. West Bengal.

(c) These 32 schemes include two schemes of Gujarat involving a loan assistance of Rs. 25.55 lakhs.

Service conditions of Government Employees

1410. SHRI PRASAENNBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that Government employees will have a say in service conditions;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to reorganise the present system and adopt a new system by which Government employees' grievances and service conditions can be changed and looked into only in consultation with them; and

(c) if so, main features of this new proposal?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH):

(a) In October, 1966, Government introduced a Scheme for Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration for Central Government Employees, with the object of promoting harmonious relations and of securing the greatest measure of Co-operation between Government and the general body of its employees. The Scheme provides for Joint Councils at three tiers; a National Council at the national level covering generally all employees of Central Government; Departmental Councils at the level of the Ministries/Departments including the employees of their Attached and Subordinate offices; and Office/Regional Councils for individual offices, for discussions and consultations with the representatives of the staff on matters of common concern coming within the purview of the Scheme. The scope of the Joint Councils includes all matters relating to conditions of work and

service, welfare of employees, improvement of efficiency and standards of work, provided, however, that (i) in regard to recruitment, promotion and discipline, consultation will be limited to matters of general principles, and (ii) individual cases will not be covered. This Scheme continues to be operative.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Implementation of Recommendation of a Committee headed by Shri A. K. Chanda

1411. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee headed by Shri A. K. Chanda was appointed in 1966 to study the working of the various media units of the Ministry;

(b) if so, whether the present Government propose to implement its recommendations fully; and

(c) how many of its recommendations were accepted by the earlier Government and the steps being taken by the present Government to implement its recommendations immediately?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee was set up in 1964.

(b) and (c). The position in respect of recommendations as have not been implemented is being reviewed and the information will be laid on the table of the House.

Coal India Limited

1412. SHRIMATI MRINAL GORE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited is facing financial crisis; and