

levels which *inter alia* includes the following:—

- (i) membership is restricted to the oilmen by profession,
 - (ii) the Chairman and Secretary of the said oilmen co-operative organisation will be *ex-officio* nominees of the Khadi Gram Udyog Board,
 - (iii) the *ex-officio* members of different organisation will be more than one third of the total strength of the society;
- (b) whether there has been some protest against such provisions by the delegates of the Conference of the Oilmen Co-operative Societies held at Patna recently; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to prepare model bye-laws on democratic lines?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) According to the draft bye-laws circulated by the Khadi and Village Industries Board, men in the profession as well as their sympathisers could become members of the primary societies. As regard the nomination of the Chairman and the Secretary, the intention is that these appointments should be subject to the approval of the Board. The number of the representatives of official and semi-official agencies will be more than one-third in the Managing Committees of District and Regional Societies only and not in primary societies.

(b) Yes.

(c) These model bye-laws are proposed to be suitably amended in the light of the discussions held at the conference and in consultation with the State Co-operative Departments.

Manufacture of Bicycles and Sewing Machines

1065. { Sardar Iqbal Singh;
Sardar Akarpuri:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is scope for starting the manufacture of Bicycles and sewing machines in the State of Punjab in the co-operative sphere;

(b) whether any company has applied for the same from that State; and

(c) if so, with what result?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Kar-markar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, One co-operative organisation has applied for manufacturing bicycles.

(c) The application is under consideration.

Post Offices (Kerala State)

1066. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of new Sub-Post Offices and Branch Post Offices proposed to be set up in Kerala State during the rest of the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the locations thereof?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Approximately, the following number of post offices are proposed to be opened in Kerala State during the rest of the Second Plan period:—

Sub-Offices	20
Extra Departmental Branch Offices	604
Extra Departmental Branch Offices proposed to be upgraded to Sub Offices	41

(b) The locations of the Post Offices will be decided by the Head of the Circle after examination of the individual proposals.

Industrial Disputes

1067. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of industrial disputes relating to plantations and textiles factories that arose in the former alabar area of the Madras State and the former Travancore-Cochin State from the 1st July upto the 31st October, 1956;

(b) the total number of factories and workers involved; and

(c) the main points of disputes?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) and (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.