

(b) now many of these licences have been utilised and the names of the firms which have failed to utilise the licences;

(c) whether any attempt has been made to get the licences of defaulters, utilised by some other companies or firms; and

(d) whether Government have any scheme to step up the production of the Northern Zone of India to meet the local requirements of textiles?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (d). A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix IV annexure No. 33]

Works Committee of the Marine Department, Port Blair, Andamans

1656. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri A. S. Saigal:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether elections to the Works Committee of the Marine Department, Port Blair, Andamans, were held in October, 1957, in an irregular way;

(b) whether Government have received any representation in the matter from the Marine Employees Union, Port Blair; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon by Government?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) to (c). The Government of India have received a complaint regarding alleged irregularities in the conduct of election to the Works Committee in the Marine Department, Port Blair. The Chief Commissioner, Andaman & Nicobar Islands has however intimated that the elections were held in accordance with the Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957.

Copra and Betel-nuts in Nicobar Islands

1657. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1808, on the 13th September, 1957, regarding Copra and Betel-nuts in Car Nicobar and other Nicobar Islands and furnish the information promised in regard to parts (b) and (d) thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): Part (b): The purchase price for Copra and betel-nuts in Car Nicobar and other Nicobar Islands is fixed on the basis of selling prices in the Calcutta market as reported by the West Bengal Government authorities.

Part (d)	Gross Profits	Approximate Royalty payable to Govt. during 1956.
M/S. Carnicobar Trading Company.	Rs. 1,88,351	Rs. 56,000
M/S. Akoojee Jadwet & Company.	Rs. 1,61,600	Rs. 82,000

Shoe Industry

1658 **Shri Sambandam:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the amount of assistance given by the Government to State schemes such as Shoe Industry in Madras State during the current financial year?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): A statement is pla-

ced on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 34].

Adulteration in Goods

1659. **Kumari M. Vedakumari:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider the complaints of retailers in business, for being punished for adulteration