

Closure of Third Shift in Textile Mills in Madras State

*1075. **Shri Anthony Pillai:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Textile mills in Madras State have threatened closure or stoppage of the third shift;

(b) if so, the names of the mills; and

(c) the number of workmen affected?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). No cotton textile mill in Madras State has threatened to close its third shift. However, a statement showing the cotton textile mills totally or partially closed in Madras State and the number of workers affected is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 97.]

Interim Relief to Workers

*1077. **Shri K. N. Pandey:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the workers of those Industries for which Wage Boards have been formed are demanding interim relief pending receipt of final recommendations of the Wage Boards; and

(b) if so the step taken by Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Wage Boards have been set up for Cotton textiles, Sugar and Cement industries. But a demand for interim increase in wages has been made only on behalf of workers in the Sugar industry.

(b) The resolution received from the Indian National Sugar Mills Workers Federation urging interim increase in wages of workers in the Sugar Industry has been forwarded to the Wage Board.

Diesel Engines

*1080. **Shri V. C. Shukla:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the reported production of a lighter and less noisy diesel engine in Britain which is complete with conversion sets for different makes of cars in the 11—18 H.P. range giving an average run of about 50 miles on a gallon of oil;

(b) whether it is a fact that the British manufacturers of the above new diesel engine have also a factory in India; and

(c) if so, whether Government contemplate giving suitable facilities to enable the said factory to manufacture the same type of diesel engines and cars in India?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) The Hon'ble Member is apparently referring to a recent commercial news item that M/s. F. Perkins Ltd. of the United Kingdom have developed a new 4-cylinder diesel engine called the Perkins 'Four-99'. The Government have no other details.

(b) No, Sir. They have only a collaboration agreement with a firm in Madras for the production of some of their other diesel engines.

(c) Does not arise.

Rationalisation of Jute Mills

*1081. **Shri Ramchwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state the number of workers affected on account of rationalisation of the jute mills.

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): 1239.

Textile Industry

*1082. **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether some relaxation in the credit facility to textile industry has been granted; and