

(a) whether the posting of an Assistant Salt Commissioner at Bera-hampur in Orissa has since been made; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) be in negative, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) No, Sir

(b) There is already an Assistant Salt Commissioner, with head quarters at Calcutta, whose responsibility it is to look after the entire Bengal-Orissa region. One of the Superintendent posted at Humma in Orissa is working under him and is meant solely for the Humma Salt Circle (Orissa). This is working satisfactorily.

Stoppage of Work at Calcutta Dock

1244. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a large number of Calcutta Dockers stopped work on the 15th February, 1959 for about eight hours as protest of non-fulfilment of their demands which affected loading and unloading of 47 ships?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): There was partial stoppage of work by a section of the registered workers of the Calcutta Dock Labour Board on 15-2-1959. In the day shift out of 2091 workers booked for work, 786 left work, while in the afternoon shift out of 2007 workers booked for work, 580 left work and did not report till 6-30 p.m. The number of ships affected was as follows —

Shift	No of ships ready for work	No of ships fully affected	No of ships partially affected
Day shift	32	5	27
Afternoon shift	28		23

The decision of the Dock Labour Board that number of the indentivity card of every worker should be made distinct by pasting a slip containing the serial number in the indentivity cards was mis-interpreted by the workers by certain disgruntled elements and caused the strike.

Manufacture of Clocks and Watches

1245. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether the panel of experts set up to recommend the lines on which the manufacture of clocks and watches should be developed in India has submitted its report, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

Trade Promotion Organisation in Europe

1246. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a special trade promotion organisation in Europe in order to explore, possibilities of export of Indian goods, and

(b) if so, the details of such schemes?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Government have decided to set up an Indian Trade Promotion Organisation in Frankfurt with a view to promoting, in the first instance, Indian exports to West Germany

(b) The Indian Trade Promotion Organisation will be established at Frankfurt in the Federal Republic of Germany. Preliminary arrangements for setting up the organisation have been completed and steps have been

taken to recruit personnel. The organisation which is expected to start functioning some time in April, 1959, will be under the charge of a Director appointed by the Government. The Director will be assisted by commodity experts deputed by Export Promotion Councils and the Commodity Boards.

The Organisation will discharge principally the following functions

- (1) Study German tastes and requirements in various commodities and undertake market research and surveys so that Indian exporters are kept in touch with German demands in fashion, quality or design,
- (2) establish contact with German business houses, import agencies, departmental stores, etc., with a view to getting them interested in Indian products,
- (3) conduct publicity for Indian goods, advise Indian exporters regarding trading opportunities in Germany and help them to benefit from marketing techniques,
- (4) participate in German fairs and exhibitions and assist Indian firms in doing so,
- (5) introduce Indian businessmen to German traders and assist individual parties in both countries to establish mutually beneficial business relations, and
- (6) conduct correspondence with German buying houses as agents of Indian exporters for this purpose.

While the organisation will give Indian businessmen all legitimate assistance of a general nature, it will not get committed to specific deals entered into by Indian traders with German businessmen.

Supply of Copper and Zinc Quotas

1247. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the cottage industry of brass and bronze utensils at Rewari has been hard hit by the enforcement of quota-system;

(b) if so, the number of manufacturers thrown out of work and the number of rolling mills closed, and

(c) the steps taken to provide copper and zinc quotas to the manufacturers?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) and (b) The Government of India are not aware of this. However, the State Government has been addressed in this connection. Information regarding number of manufacturers thrown out of work and number of rolling mills closed is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The following steps have been taken to supply copper and zinc to small-scale manufacturers all over the country

(i) Copper Supply and price of imported copper have been brought under statutory Control under the Essential Commodities Act (10 of 1955) and the Controller of Non-Ferrous Metals, has been authorised to acquire all imported copper for equitable distribution among all Actual Users, big and small.

So far as the small scale industries units consuming copper are concerned they were asked to submit their application vide Public-Notice No 17-ITC(PN)/58 dated 24.2.1958. To those units which applied in accordance with this Public Notice, during April-September, 1958 the Controller distributed copper upto 23.3% of their half-yearly consumption in 1957 certified by the State Directors of Industries. In order to mitigate any hardship that might have been felt by