

According to information received from the Himachal Pradesh Administration, so far, one training centre in weaving was started at Chini in Mahasu District in the year 1953.

(b) Expenditure on the centre since its establishment has been Rs. 65,594 and eighteen persons have so far been trained at this centre. At present, 9 trainees are undergoing training.

(c) The Himachal Pradesh Administration has reported that the Chini area is quite rich in wool, and wool spinning and weaving forms an important subsidiary occupation for the local people. It was, therefore, considered advisable to start a training centre for imparting training in improved methods of weaving and spinning. Apart from this, the following schemes are also proposed to be implemented in the area during the current financial year:—

1. Production Centre for Namdas & Gudmas.
2. Production Centre for Manufacture of Druggets.
3. Conversion of throw-shuttle looms into fly-shuttle looms.
4. Introduction of improved Kalupati Ghani on the basis of common facility-cum-production centre.
5. A mobile demonstration-cum-training centre in Wool Spinning.

Under the Social Welfare Schemes, there is also a proposal for starting two training centres—one in Weaving & Spinning, and another in Leather Work during the Current financial year.

It has also been proposed by the Himachal Pradesh Administration that a thorough survey of the Handicraft industries in the territory may be carried out with a view to explore the possibility of further development of such industries. The proposal is under the consideration of the All India Handicrafts Board.

'E' Division of C.P.W.D.

4233. { Shri Saswara Iyer:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Tangamank:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) what is the work-load on 'E' Division of the Central Public Works Department;

(b) whether this work-load justifies the existence of this Division; and

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal to merge this Division with any other Division?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The work-load of this Division is about Rs. 40 lakhs per year.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

Co-operative Factories

4234. { Shri Venkatasubbalah:
Shri Rami Reddy:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of co-operative sugar factories, textile factories and other industrial undertakings run on co-operative basis, which have been granted licences under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act by the Central Government yearwise and State-wise since the commencement of the First Five Year Plan;

(b) whether any exemptions like Income-Tax etc. are given to these co-operative factories; and

(c) the pattern of financial assistance which is given to them?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 66].