

Quarters in the Compensation Pool in Bombay State

2368 Shri Goray: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many Government built quarters which form part of the Compensation Pool are situated in the Bombay State;

(b) how many of these quarters are in occupation of non-claimants, and

(c) the number of Government built quarters of Bombay State whose price has been fixed finally?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) 42 634

(b) 13,721

(c) 36,848

Research on Radiation Hazards

2369 Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the finding of the experts conducting research in India on radiation hazards that radiation on generative tissues may affect fertility, and

(b) the steps taken to prevent the radiation hazard and whether any remedy has been discovered?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) It is now fairly well established that reproductive cells or germ cells may be damaged or destroyed by ionising radiations resulting in impaired fertility or even total sterility. The degree of damage is dependent upon the type and amount of radiation as well as duration of exposure. Radiation hazards are of two types, (i) external and (ii) internal. In the case of the external hazard, the radiation source lies outside the body and can bring about its deleterious effects by acting on vulnerable components of active cells. Internal hazard arises from ingestion or inhalation of radioactive materials.

(b) The following steps are taken to prevent radiation hazards:

External

- (i) Proper shielding of the radiation sources
- (ii) Maintaining sufficient distance from the radio-active material
- (iii) Limiting the time spent in radiation area
- (iv) Wearing of "film badges" by personnel working with ionizing radiations in order to determine the radiation dose and the amount of radiation received

Internal

Preventing radioisotopes from entering the body by employment of proper control techniques such as wearing of protective clothing and gloves and care in the handling of radioactive substances

No specific remedy has so far been discovered against radiation. However, research is being carried out to find substances that would confer protection against radiation damage or rectify the damage done

Glucose and Starch from Tapioca

2370. Shri Maniyangadan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government for promoting the manufacture of glucose and starch from tapioca, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table

STATEMENT

Nearly two years ago the Government of India had sanctioned a scheme submitted by Messrs Corn Products Refining Company, New York, to set up a Tapioca Starch Factory in Kerala

in collaboration with Messrs Parry & Co., Madras, for producing Tapioca Starch on the condition that 75 per cent. of the production would be exported. The said scheme has since been abandoned by the promoters of the Company.

Starch is already being produced from Tapioca by one or two factories in Kerala State, e.g., Tapioca Starch is also produced at Salem by a large number of sago factories who use it as a raw material for the manufacture of Sago. There are over 100 sago factories round about Salem District in Madras State.

The Government of India have also encouraged the production of Glucose from Tapioca Starch. Messrs Kamla Sugar Mills Ltd., Udumalpet, Coimbatore District, have been licensed under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for the production of Glucose Powder, for a capacity of 120 tons per month, using Tapioca Starch as the raw material. This unit is likely to go into production in the near future.

Classification of Accidents in Mines

2371. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that accidents in mines are being classified as statistical and non-statistical;

(b) if so, the basis for such classification;

(c) whether it is also a fact that details of non-statistical accidents are not being published since 1950;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the total number of accidents—statistical and non-statistical separately for each year since 1950?

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

(b) Accidents not connected with mining are classified as non-statistical accidents.

(c) Yes.

(d) As non-statistical accidents are not mining accidents, it was decided to discontinue publication of statistics relating to them in the reports from 1950 onwards.

(e)

Year	Total number of accidents	
	Statistical	Non-Statistical
1950	2,214	85
1951	2,848	111
1952	4,028	96
1953	4,454	112
1954	4,673	119
1955	4,502	110
1956	4,400	124
1957	3,841	124
1958*	4,004	85

*Provisional.

Small-Scale and Cottage Industries in Madras

2372. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any schemes for the development of small-scale and cottage industries in Madras State during the year 1959-60 have been sanctioned;

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be spent; and

(c) the nature of schemes?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) According to the latest procedure, no sanction is necessary from the Central Government for continuing schemes. Only in the case of new schemes, technical approval of the Government of India is necessary. So far technical approval has been accorded to one scheme of small scale industries.

(b) While considering the Annual Plan of Madras for 1959-60 the following Central assistance was agreed to