

Premo Pipe Factory, Kerala

815. **Shri K. S. Ramaswamy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Premo Pipe Factory in Quilon, Kerala State, has been closed temporarily; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Industry (**Shri Manubhai Shah**): (a) and (b). The State Government have reported that the factory is temporarily closed. The Premo Pipe Factory was started in November, 1956 under the auspices and proprietorship of the Indo-Norwegian Project, Neendakara, Quilon, to manufacture and supply the full length of pipes, required for the Quilon Water Supply Scheme, from Sasthamkottah to Quilon according to the terms of the Indo-Norwegian Project Agreement. This factory was functioning only as temporary establishment by the Indo-Norwegian Foundation for Quilon Water Supply Scheme. The Government of Kerala have since acquired the patent right for the production of pipes so as to make use of Premo Pipes in other schemes. This factory was taken over by Kerala Government on 1-9-1959. It has been reported by that Government that the factory has been closed temporarily due to dearth of raw materials, a larger part of which has to be imported.

Air-conditioning Equipment in Krishni Bhavan

816. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state the total cost of air-conditioning equipment installed in Krishni Bhavan in New Delhi?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (**Shri K. C. Reddy**): About Rs. 8 lakhs.

Ever Bright Steel

817. { **Shri V. P. Nayar:**
Shri Warrior:
Shri Kodiyann:

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

(a) whether Government intend to totally prevent or at least sizeably reduce the consumption of ever bright steel for the manufacture of cooking utensils; and

(b) what is the total quantity of ever bright steel consumed for this purpose as against yearly imports of this material?

The Minister of Industry (**Shri Manubhai Shah**): (a) The consumption of ever bright steel for the manufacture of cooking utensils is already sizeably reduced. The Stainless Steel utensil industry is at present working only upto about 20 per cent. of its assessed capacity.

(b) Out of about 2,000 tons of stainless steel imported annually at present, approximately 700 tons is consumed by the utensils making industry.

Radio Sets in Punjab

818. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the number of radio sets given so far to the State of Punjab under the Community Listening Scheme of the Central Government?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (**Dr. Keskar**): 6,216 community receiving sets have been supplied to the Punjab State up to the 31st October, 1959.

Manipuri Families to India from Burma

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Manipuri families have fled to the Indian side in Moreh and Mangsha because of the refusal of the