

Conference between Union and Punjab State Rehabilitation Ministers

1715. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a Conference between the Union Minister of Rehabilitation and the Punjab State Rehabilitation Minister at Chandigarh in October, 1959; and

(b) if so, the decisions arrived at?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) A Conference was held at Manali.

(b) The various outstanding issues relating to the resettlement of displaced persons in the rural areas of Punjab were discussed and settled.

Unallotted Evacuee Land in Punjab

1716. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided to set up a committee to inspect and evaluate the unallotted evacuee land with a view to sell it to the Punjab Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the report submitted by the Committee, if any?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Yes. The Committee is concerned only with the inferior lands which are lying unallotted because of their being unacceptable to land claimants.

(b) The report submitted by the Committee is being examined.

Industries in Kerala State

1717. Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government made proposals for starting industries in the Kerala State between April, 1957 to July, 1959;

(b) if so, what are the proposals;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has given approval to all these proposals; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) to (d). The fresh proposals received from the Kerala Government during the period under reference relate to State participation to the extent of about Rs. 150 lakhs in the following industrial projects in the private sector:

1. Travancore Cochin Chemicals Ltd.
2. Travancore Electro-Chemical Industries Ltd.
3. United Electricals Industries Ltd.
4. Metal Industries Ltd., Shoranur.
5. Tracco Enterprises.
6. Indian Transformers.
7. Automobile Tyre Factory.
8. Southern Group Industries Ltd.
9. Western India Plywood Ltd.
10. National Tyre and Rubber Co.
11. Republic Forge.

The Planning Commission have approved State investment in seven enterprises under item 1-7. Investment by the State Government in the remaining projects was not considered necessary or desirable on account of one or more of the following reasons:—

- (i) Inadequate scope for expansion of capacity in the industries suggested by the entrepreneurs;
- (ii) Non-availability of foreign exchange for the import of equipment; and
- (iii) Technical unsoundness of the proposals put forward.