

**The Deputy Minister of Planning**  
(Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) Yes; Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 57].

**Salt Committee**

287. { Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 1962 on the 2nd September, 1960 and state:

(a) what steps have been taken so far to speed up production of Salt in the coastal areas of West Bengal so that West Bengal, Bihar, Assam and Orissa will be self-sufficient in Salt for edible and commercial purposes;

(b) whether the recommendations of the Salt Expert Committee of 1950 in the matter were complied with; and

(c) what are the recommendations of the Salt Committee which submitted its report last year about the matter and how far they going to be implemented?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) A production-cum-training centre is being established at Sisirganj in West Bengal to demonstrate to salt manufacturers in the area scientific methods of salt production. Licences for the manufacture of salt in the State are also liberally issued.

(b) The recommendations of the Salt Committee 1950, have been complied with wherever possible.

(c) The Salt Committee has recommended that efforts should be made to step up production of salt in underdeveloped areas including West Bengal. The establishment of the training-cum-production centre at Sisirganj is in pursuance of this recommendation. The possibility of producing salt in the Contai area is also being explored.

**Foreign Collaboration for Industries**

288. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any foreign financial and technical collaboration with Indian firms for establishment of Industries in the country since 1st April, 1960 upto-date; and

(b) if so, the details of these collaborations?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) From April to October 1960, the Government of India have approved 228 agreements between Indian and foreign entrepreneurs for the manufacture of a variety of items. The agreements country-wise have been:—

U.K.	80
West Germany	41
U.S.A.	35
Japan	23
other countries.	49

**Low Income Group Housing Scheme**

289. **Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has changed its original rate of interest and method of calculating interest on the loans granted under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme;

(b) if so, what is the rate of interest charged on these loans; and

(c) how the interest is calculated?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) No.

(b) and (c). The rate of interest, to be charged on loans given under Low Income Group Housing Scheme, is determined by the Government of India from time to time, depending upon the Government's own borrowing rate of interest and the period of repayment of loan. The principal amount with interest is recovered in