

survey was conducted with the aim of obtaining an idea of the number of computers in developing countries, and their use. The survey brought out that amongst the developing countries, three had no computers and five had only one computer each. The computers installed in India in 1968 were 111, (though the number in 1970 rose to 126), followed by 33 in Chile and 14 each in the Republic of Korea, Trinidad and Tobago. The survey has brought out that the computers in developing countries are used for work relating to demography, census and Government Administration and accounting. These applications are similar to those first made, when computers were introduced in the public sector, in the industrially advanced countries. The survey adds that computers are especially important in the essential role technology has to play in reducing disparities between the rich and the poor countries.

Applications for expansion and extension of Jute factories in West Bengal

2298. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of applications for expansion and extension of Jute Textile factories located in West Bengal are lying with the Government ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not granting permission to these factories ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. Only 2 cases relating to expansion of capacity for production of carpet backing cloth are pending. Both have been considered by the Licencing Committee, but in one case permission under the MRTP Act has not yet been obtained by the applicant while in the other case certain factual information is being checked.

Services of Employees Dispensed with due to Introduction of Computers

2299. SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of computers in India, Industry wise ;

(b) the cost of these computers and other servicing charges paid by Government thereon ; and

(c) the number of workers and employees replaced by the computers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The number of computers installed in the country upto 1970 was 126 with the following breakup :—

	No. of Installations
1. Chemical and Allied Industries	9
2. Communications	3
3. Electricity	2
4. Engineering General	13
5. Electrical Engineering	2
6. Automobile Engineering	2
7. Insurance and Banking	6
8. Petroleum and Allied Industries	5
9. Textiles	7
10. Transport : Rail and Air	16
11. Computer and Consultancy Service	10
12. Government Departments	7
13. Steel	5
14. Miscellaneous	5
<i>Research Group</i>	
Research and Educational Institutions	34
Total	126

(b) These 126 computers are owned not only by Government but also by the Private Sector, Universities, Research Institutions etc. The cost of 111 computers which were installed upto 1968 has been estimated to be about Rs. 24 crores (inclusive of ancillary plant and off-line equipment ; this figure provides a reasonable indication of the computer power available in financial terms and does not represent the exact amount in rupees that was spent). The total cost of 126 computers is not readily available.

(c) the Model Agreement on Rationalisation does not permit retrenchment. No complaints of actual loss of jobs due to installation of computers have been received, in establishments within the purview of Central Government. According to a recent survey conducted there has been no adverse effect on the existing employment situation following the use of computers.

**Taking over Somasundara Mills,
Coimbatore**

2300. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Coimbatore District Mill Workers' Union to take over the closed Somasundara Mills through the Textile Corporation of India ; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Census data about Ladakh

2301. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Census data about Ladakh had shown remarkable changes in the socio-economic life of the people of that region during 1961-71 ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHSIN) : (a) and (b). Changes in the socio-economic life of the people of Ladakh District 1961-71 will be known when the census schedules are fully processed. However, the provisional population figures of 1971 Census reveal the following main features of changes in Ladakh District :

(i) Population			
1971		1961	
Persons	105,001	Persons	86,651
Males	52,929	Males	44,972
Females	52,072	Females	43,679

(ii) Growth rate of Population

1961-1971	1951-1961
18.44%	7.66%

(iii) Sex ratio (females per 1,000 males)

1971	1961
984	971

(iv) Percentage of literatures* to total population

1971		1961	
Persons	13.50	Persons	8.31
Males	23.45	Males	15.37
Females	3.38	Females	1.05

*Includes figures of age group 0-4.

(v) Percentage of non-agricultural workers to total workers

1971	1961
19.0	14.2

Export of Iron Ore through M.M.T.C.

2302. SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether iron-ore export has provided to be a losing proposition for the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation ;

(b) if so, whether this export loss is affecting the overall profitability of the Corporation ; and

(c) if so, the action to be taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) It is a fact that the export of iron ore has in recent years involved the MMTC in loss, in strict financial terms, although the loss is marginal.

(b) and (c). The overall profitability of the Corporation has to be considered with reference to the entire range of commodities dealt with, and on its overall business the Corporation is showing profits for the last two years. While the Corporation on its side is endeavouring to secure better prices wherever possible for its exports and otherwise to improve its profitability.