

that unit during 1966-67 was 535 Nos. The figures of production of transplanting and digging machines are not available.

(b) The selling price of the indigenously manufactured power tiller is Rs. 4,200 per unit whereas the selling prices of larger tractors range from Rs. 15,032 to Rs. 21,880 per unit. Similar information about transplanting and digging machines is not available.

(c) Industrial licences for the manufacture of power tillers for a total capacity of 26,000 Nos. per annum have been issued. Letters of Intent for a further capacity of 37,000 Nos. power tillers per annum have also been issued. Government are also considering a proposal to set up a public sector project for the manufacture of four-wheeled tractors below 20 H P. Efforts are being made to achieve self-sufficiency in small tractors and Power tillers by the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan period.

Precise demand for small transplanting machines and small digging machines has not been assessed.

मध्य प्रदेश में शक्तिवर्धन करवा उद्योग

6324. श्री गं. चं. शीकित : क्या व निम्न मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिजली की कमी के कारण मध्य प्रदेश के शक्तिवर्धन करवा उद्योग को विशेषतः बरहामपुर जिले में भारी संकट का सामना करना पड़ रहा है ;

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश में हम उद्योग में बेरोजगारी की तात्कालिक स्थिति क्या है ;

(ग) क्या हम उद्योग को बचाने के लिये राज्य सरकार ने कोई प्रस्ताव रखा है ; और

(घ) क्या इस संकट को दूर करने में मदद देने के लिये सरकार का विचार कोई कार्यवाही करने का है ।

शांतिव्य नवात्म्य में उपर्युक्त (बी) तक की सुरक्षा) . (क) से (घ). जानकारी एकत्रित की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Development of Handicrafts Industries in Gujarat

6325. Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state.

(a) the amount granted by Government to the Gujarat Government for the development of Handicrafts industries in the State during 1966-67; and

(b) the amount proposed to be given to that State for the purpose during 1967-68?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shaif Qureshi):

(a) After setting off Rs 0.12 lakhs and Rs 0.16 lakhs paid in excess as grant and loan during 1964-65, a grant of Rs. 0.63 lakhs and a loan of Rs 0.25 lakhs were sanctioned by the Central Government to the Government of Gujarat during 1966-67 for the development of handicrafts industries.

(b) It is too early to anticipate the amount to be sanctioned during 1967-68 which will mainly depend upon the actual expenditure incurred for the purpose by the Government of Gujarat within the ceilings fixed by the Planning Commission.

Small Scale Industries

6326. Shri Baburao Patel: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state.

(a) the names and particulars of small-scale industries facing extinction due to shortage of finance;

(b) the steps taken to help these industries in each case;

(c) whether it is a fact that certain small scale industries have been crippled because of unreasonable restrictions on the import of certain components and raw materials;

(d) whether it is a fact that a number of small paper mills have been closed down because of heavy duty on pulp and other restrictions on import of components; and

(e) if so, the steps Government propose to take to save these small units?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) Though there have been some representations that small scale units are facing shortage of finance, no case of any individual unit or group of units in any industry facing extinction due to shortage of finance has been reported.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such case has been reported to this Ministry.

(d) and (e). A representation from the Association of Small Paper Mills has been received stating that some of them have closed down due to uneconomic operation because imported pulp is too costly for them after devaluation, and also because of their inability to compete with large paper mills after paying excise duty at the same rates as the larger integrated mills. They have, therefore, requested for the abolition of import duty on pulp and some other concessions, including a lower excise duty. This representation is under the consideration of Government.

Aluminium Project in Ratnagiri

6327. **Shri Baburao Patel:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) when the Aluminium Project in Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, is likely to be completed and put into commission;

(b) the originally scheduled date of completion and reasons for delay;

(c) the total investment in the project;

(d) the total capacity of the Plant and the amount of annual output expected in the first five years;

(e) the number of persons expected to be employed every month;

(f) whether any foreign collaboration of expert advice has been acquired for the project, and

(g) if so, its nature and terms?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) and (b). The proposed aluminium Project at Ratnagiri (Maharashtra) is included in the draft Outline of the Fourth Five Year Plan and was expected to be completed by the end of this Plan period. A firm time-schedule for the completion and commissioning of the project will be worked out after the project is sanctioned by the Government and the project estimates, which are presently under the consideration of the Government, are approved

(c) A clear picture regarding total investment in the project will be available after finalisation of the project estimates.

(d) The proposed project will have a capacity for the production of 50,000 tonnes per annum of aluminium metal. Production during the first year is expected to be of the order of 50 per cent of the rated capacity. Full production is expected to be realised during the second year of operations and thereafter.

(e) The project is expected to provide employment to about 2,000 persons.