

(c) State Governments have been addressed to Accelerate the utilisation of funds available from Life Insurance Corporation for the purpose of establishment of industrial estates by Industrial estates by Industrial Cooperatives or Joint-Stock Companies.

Surplus Personnel at Rourkela, Durgapur and Ranchi

*891. **Shri H. C. Soy:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) the number of various classes of personnel rendered surplus on completion of the national projects at Rourkela, Durgapur and Heavy Engineering projects at Ranchi; and

(b) the extent to which these surplus personnel have been given employment elsewhere?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b). The one million ton Steel Plants at Rourkela and Durgapur are being expanded and the construction work is in progress. The construction in the Heavy Engineering Projects at Ranchi is also in progress. As such the question of personnel being rendered surplus does not arise at this stage.

Houses for Handloom Workers

*892. **Shri P. Kunhan:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for providing housing colonies for handloom workers during the Third plan;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(c) the total amount provided for the purpose?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). The general principles for assistance to the development of handloom industry provide for financial assistance for the con-

struction of housing colonies by weavers Cooperative Societies. The broad features of the scheme are:—

(i) The ceiling for a house in a Weaver's Housing Colony is Rs. 3600/-. Rs. 2000/- is given as loan to the Co-operative Society and Rs. 1250 as grant. The weaver is expected to contribute a minimum of Rs. 350 or 10% of the cost whichever is higher, in the form of cash, labour or construction materials. The loan which carries simple interest at 4½% is repayable in not more than 25 equated annual instalments commencing from the first anniversary of the date of drawal of the last instalments of the loan. The loan is disbursed in 3 instalments—one third along with the sanction of the scheme, one third when the construction reaches the plinth level and the balance when construction reaches roof level.

(ii) The grant of Rs. 1250 is disbursed in two instalments—Rs. 800 when construction reaches roof level and Rs. 450 after submission of audited accounts of cost of construction.

Financial assistance for housing colonies is given out of the Plan provision for handloom industry. Separate schemewise provisions have not been made. It is left to each State to make adequate provision for this Scheme out of the Annual Plan Allocations under Handloom Industry.

Coal Fuel

*893. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
 { **Shri Ram Ratan Gupta:**

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have encouraged the shift from coal fuel to imported oil; and

(b) if so, to what extent it has resulted in the replacement of coal?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) In view of the difficulties in the transport of coal which prevailed in 1961 and 1962, some consumers in Southern and Western India were allowed to switch over to furnace oil in place of coal and certain incentives were granted for such switch-over.

(b) So far only two cement factories have switched over completely to furnace oil. Two other cement factories had programmed to switch over to furnace oil with effect from 1-4-1964. When this change over is also complete, a total of nearly 0.6 million tonnes of coal would have been replaced by furnace oil. A couple of factories, besides these, are still in the process of switching over.

Textile Mills

*894. { Shri M. L. Jadhav:
Shri Jedhe:
Shri Lonikar:

Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is huge wastage in the installed capacity of textile mills;

(b) whether the wastage of installed capacity results in short supply of cloth; and

(c) the efforts being made to correct the position?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

S. T. C. Trade Delegation Abroad

*901. **Shri Maheswar Naik:** Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) whether a trade delegation of the State Trading Corporation headed by its Chairman is visiting Russia, East Germany and Czechoslovakia;

(b) if so, the specific purpose of the visit; and

(c) to what extent, if any, the expenditure incurred on the delegation is likely to reflect on the various items of trade the team is expected to negotiate?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) A Trade Delegation of the State Trading Corporation, headed by its Chairman, visited G.D.R., Czechoslovakia and the U.S.S.R. during March, 1964.

(b) The main reasons for the visits to the three countries were:—

(i) G.D.R.—to negotiate prices and programme of supply of fertilizers as also to co-ordinate the activities of the representatives of STC and private firms who participated in the Leipzig Fair.

(ii) Czechoslovakia: to promote trade in chemicals.

(iii) USSR: to negotiate supply of fertilizers and to settle contracts in other items of exports and imports.

In addition, the opportunity was utilised by the delegation to discuss various trade matters for speedy implementation of increased exports of diversified items.

(c) The total expenditure incurred on the delegation was Rs. 26,300 approximately. The value of the contracts negotiated by the delegation is likely to be about Rs. 8.50 crores.

Kiriburu Iron Ore Project

*902. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kiriburu iron ore project on which Rs. 43 crores has been invested is idle because of the delay in the provision of facilities at Visakhapatnam port;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Japanese buyers are not inclined to