

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b). Hong Kong imports Mica from India and other countries. Re-export is made to various destinations. A portion of these imports is re-exported in original and processed form to third countries. It is neither possible nor advisable for exporting countries to seek to regulate re-exports of products imported by entrepot centres such as Hong Kong.

#### BONUS TO COFFEE BOARD EMPLOYEES

340. SHRI K. RAMANI :  
SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN :  
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 347 on the 6th August, 1968 and state :

(a) whether Government have examined the question of payment of bonus to the Coffee Board Workers;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) to (c). The question of admissibility of bonus payments to the employees of the Coffee Board is being examined by the Government.

#### BHARATHI MILLS, PONDICHERRY

341. SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :  
SHRI NAMBIAR :  
SHRI K. RAMANI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 316 on the 23rd July, 1968 and state :

(a) when the first stage of the Bharathi Mills Pondicherry was started and total number of workers taken back in service;

(b) whether Government have considered the question of restarting the second stage;

(c) if so, decision taken thereon;

(d) when second stage is likely to be started; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) The first stage of Shri Bharathi Mills Ltd., Pondicherry, started in January, 1967 and 871 workers have been taken back in service so far.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Pending a decision on the future of the mill under the provisions of the Cotton Textile Companies (Management of Undertakings and Liquidation or Reconstruction) Act, 1967, the Authorised Controller has been advised that, within the resources available to him, he may start every month some additional spindles and looms along with ancillary machinery and provide employment to additional workers every month till the old workers who are prepared to seek re-employment are absorbed.

(d) The Authorised Controller will start some spindles and looms every month as soon as he can fix up necessary arrangements.

(e) The question does not arise.

#### HEAVY ELECTRICALS LTD., BHOPAL

342. SHRI D. V. SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any cases of over-spending on the purchases of under ground cables and paints and varnishes by the Heavy Electricals, Ltd., Bhopal during 1960 to 1963, have lately been detected;

(b) if so, the extent of over-spending on each item and the dead loss caused to that project on this account due to wastage of excess stores purchased in respect of each item in this period.

(c) whether any inquiry has been ordered in these cases, if so, through which agency and in what terms the cases have been referred for the probe; and

(d) by what time the results of the probe are expected ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b). In December, 1960, the Heavy Electricals (India) Ltd. placed an order for under-ground cables valued at Rs. 5,94,798/-. In August, 1961 after cables valued at

Rs. 55,088/- had been supplied, the order for the remaining portion was cancelled as the delivery was not considered satisfactory and a fresh order for the cables was placed on another company at a cost of Rs 6,48,600/-. The purchase of cables at higher rates on grounds of urgency resulted in additional expenditure of Rs. 1,08,890/-.

A quantity of 4,700 litres of 'Thermo Hardening Varnish' was purchased from indigenous sources. The quality was satisfactory at the time of purchase but owing to delay in utilisation, the shelf life of the varnish expired and it could not be used. As a result, a loss of about Rs. 30,000 took place.

(c) and (d). (i) Regarding the purchase of cables at higher rates the Management has ordered an enquiry with a view to fix responsibility and the result of the enquiry is awaited.

(ii) A Departmental Committee of the company consisting of two senior officers was appointed to go into the question of non-utilisation of varnish in time. The Committee were of the view that some over-indenting had taken place of certain items of paints and varnish which occurred due to inadequate purchase procedures, inventory control and experience in the initial stages of the Project. Besides, high production targets were also assumed, resulting in purchase of large quantity of these materials. The remedial measures suggested by the Committee to avoid recurrence of such cases have been implemented.

#### PRODUCTION OF HARD COKE

343. SHRI VALMIKI CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a process has been evolved to produce hard coke for the production of hard briquettes coke from India's vast non-coking coal reserves;

(b) if so, main features of this process;

(c) the places where the required plants would be set up, their production capacity and the capital required; and

(d) the precise advantage resulting from the adoption of this process ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a)

The Central Fuel Research Institute has evolved a process at the laboratory level for the manufacture of Formed Coke from non-coking coals for metallurgical purposes, but the utility of this process on a commercial scale has yet to be established.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

#### SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES IN KERALA

344. SHRI P. C. ADICHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that out of about 1,000 applications for small scale industries proposed to be set up in Kerala last year only 20 per cent of them took shape and the rest were held up due to delay by the Central Government in arranging supply of machinery and important raw materials;

(b) if so, what were the reasons for the delay; and

(c) what steps are being taken to ensure that the concerted drive launched by the State Government for development of Small Scale Industries in Kerala does not fail on account of the failure on the part of Central Government to supply required machinery and raw materials in time ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) No, Sir. The delay in import of machinery and raw materials was not due to the Central Government.

(b) The reasons for delay were the following :—

(i) non-remittance, or delay in remittance, of earnest money by the applicants;

(ii) furnishing of incomplete specifications and non-indication of the source of supply of the required machine by the applicants;

(iii) change in demand by the applicants; and

(iv) time taken by the suppliers in effecting delivery of the machines including location of the source of supply; shipment and other difficulties.