

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): (a) Only the depots in the Southern Region, Orissa Madhya Pradesh, U.P., Rajasthan, Delhi and Punjab and the Procurement Units in Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab have so far been transferred to the Food Corporation of India. No firm date for the transfer of the depots in the Western and Eastern Regions has been fixed as yet, but these are likely to be transferred during the course of the next financial year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The presumption that either the provisions of Article 311 of the Constitution or the assurance given in this Sabha by the Minister of State for Food on the 11th April, 1966 are proposed to be violated is not correct.

Swadeshi Cotton Mill, Kanpur

2595. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry was ordered into the affairs of Swadeshi cotton Mill, Kanpur, and other concerns headed by Jaipuria's in 1964;

(b) if so, whether the enquiry has been completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): (a) In September, 1964, an investigation into the affairs of the Swadeshi Cotton Mills Ltd. and Jaipuria Brothers Ltd. was ordered

under section 237(b) of the Companies Act.

(b) and (c). Scrutiny of the books of accounts and the oral evidence have been completed and the report is under preparation.

Sugar Factories

2596. Shri H. C. Linga Reddy: Will the Minister of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) how many sugar factories had to be closed owing to drought conditions last year and this year;

(b) their names alongwith the losses incurred by them on account of their closure;

(c) when the same will be opened;

(d) the arrangements made to pay lay-off charges to the labourers; and

(e) how many applications recommended by the State Governments are pending for issue of licences and for what places and when they will be disposed of?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shinde): (a) and (b). No sugar factory closed down in the season 1965-66 owing to drought conditions. During the season 1966-67, the following two sugar factories have reported that they will not work on account of lack of cane due to drought conditions:—

1. The Mysore Sugar Co. Ltd., Mandya (Mysore State).
2. The Seth Govind Ram Sugar Mills, Mehdiipur Road, (Madhya Pradesh).

The losses to be incurred by these sugar factories are not known.

(c) Factories are expected to work during the next season 1967-68.

(d) The State Governments concerned are looking into these arrangements.