

(b) The electorate in the State of Nagaland did not have sufficient experience of elections for adopting the marking system of voting.

Delay in receipt of Equipment for Bokaro Steel Plant

9394. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :
SHRI SITARAM KESRI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the supply of equipment for the Bokaro Steel Plant from the Soviet Union is lagging behind;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to speed up the supply of equipment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the contract concluded on the 3rd May, 1966, by Bokaro Steel Limited with Messrs. Tiajpromexport, Moscow, the latter have to supply 1,01,502 tonnes of equipment. The delivery of this equipment has to be completed by July, 1970. Upto the end of March, 1969, 40,689 tonnes of equipment has been received from the U.S.S.R., which represents 40.08% of the total tonnage. The Soviet suppliers have assured that the supplies will be completed as contracted.

Cement Plant in Chanakha-Bhim Kund area of Maharashtra

9395. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large deposits of lime and cement stone have been unearthed in the Chanakha-Bhim Kund-belt of Yeotmal district in Maharashtra ; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed by Government for setting up of a cement plant in that area ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government has no proposal to set up a cement factory in the area. The cement industry has been exempted from the licensing provisions of the Industries (D & J) Act, 1951 with effect from 13.5.1966 and it is no longer necessary for any one to obtain a licence from the Central Government for setting up a cement factory in the area. The Government of Maharashtra has reported that a private party has made a study of the quality and quantity of the limestone deposits and has shown interest in setting up a cement plant in the area provided a railway line from Bhimkund via Chanaka and Bori to Ghugus/Wani is constructed in time to synchronise with the completion of the cement project. The matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Railways by the State Government.

Grants and Loans given to Khadi and Village Industries Commission

9396. SHRI BABURAO PATEL :
SHRI ARJUN SINGH
BHADORIA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the date of inception of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and the total amount of grants and loans given to it so far ;

(b) whereas the grants involve no repayment of the amount or interest thereon, and the loans are to be repaid with interest, how much interest and how much of the loan has been paid so far ;

(c) the actual value of the assets of the Commission at present to serve as security for the loans unpaid ;

(d) whether Government have tried to find out how and where over Rs. 200 crores in grants and loans have been spent ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission was established on 1.4.57. Since its inception till 31.3.69 loans given amount to Rs. 79.18 crores and grants to Rs. 136.62 crores, including an amount of Rs. 21.53 crores given as subsidy in lieu of interest on loans payable by the Commission.

(b) The amount of loans repaid by the Commission is Rs. 1.44 crores representing part repayment of a special loan of Rs. 3.81 crores which is included in the amount mentioned in answer to part (a) of the question. The amount of interest paid by the Commission till 31.3.68 is Rs. 87.14 lakhs.

(c) Any formal security has not been taken from the Khadi and Village Industries Commission against the loans given to it. The assets of the Commission in addition to those of the various institutions to whom the Commission has dispersed the loans form the real security for Government funds since, in the event of the loans being recalled by Government these assets will have to be realised for repayment of Government loans. The value of the Commission's assets is being ascertained and a statement giving this information will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(d) Yes, Sir. The accounts of the Commission are subject to regular audit.

(e) Does not arise.

Price of Cement

9397. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :
SHRI ONKAR LAL
BERWA :
SHRI RAMAVTAR
SHARMA :
SHRI MUHAMMAD
SHERIFF :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE

AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the decision on the current cement prices in the country has been finalized by Government ;

(b) whether the cost of production of cement has increased ;

(c) whether the price of cement has also been increased ; and

(d) if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS SHRI (F. A. AHMED) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. It has been decided to fix a uniform ex-works price of Rs. 100 per tonne for all cement factories from the 16th April, 1969, except in the case of three sub-standard units for which a separate price will have to be fixed taking into account their special circumstances. Consequent to the increased ex-works price, the free-on-rail-destination selling price has been increased by Rs. 3.60 per tonne with effect from the 16th April, 1969.

Issue of liquor licences in U.P.

9398. DR. SUSHILA NAYAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of liquor licences, district-wise for the country and foreign liquor issued before the promulgation of the President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) the number of such liquor licences, district-wise issued after the imposition of the President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh ;

(c) the number of hoarding advertising liquors and wines put up in Uttar Pradesh ; and

(d) whether it is a fact that one dry day a week (Tuesday) used to be observed before the imposition of the President's Rule and this has since been cancelled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE