

if so, the amounts paid upto now and the amount which remains to be paid ; and

(c) whether these amounts could have been more fruitfully utilised if advanced to sick mills for re-organisation and modernisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD) : (a) and (b) The administration of the provident funds of the textile mills is the concern of the Central Board of trustees an autonomous Organisation under the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952 and is not the concern of the Central Government. The information is not available with the Government of India The Employees' Provident Funds organisation has reported that the required information is not readily available with it.

(c) The Employees' Provident Funds Act and the Scheme framed thereunder do not provide for utilization of provident fund dues of workers for reorganisation and modernisations of sick mills. These dues are payable to the members or to their nominees/heirs in case of premature death of the members.

Establishment of a Unit to Manufacture Transmission Equipment in the Public Sector

*1011. SHRI K. ANIRUDHAN :
SHRI E.K. NAYANAR :
SHRI A.K. GOPALN :

Will the Ministry of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have a scheme for a new factory which will be another unit of the Indian Industries for the manufacture of Transmission equipment;

(b) if so, whether the Kerala Government have offered a number of sites for selection of suitable site for the establishment of the unit;

(c) whether Government will consider the establishment of the Unit in Kerala;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SATYA NARAYN SINHA) : (a) A proposal for the setting up of a new factory for the manufacture of long distance transmission equipment is under Government's consideration. The new factory will augment the production of the Indian Telephone Industries Limited in respect of transmission equipment.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). The Government of India have, after taking into consideration all relevant factors, decided to locate the new factory at Naini near Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh.

Fertilizer Promotion Corporation

*1012. SHRI D.N. PATNDIA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to set up a Fertilizer Promotion Corporation to stimulate sales of fertilizers within the country; and

(b) if so, when a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE) : (a) and (b). The Government are considering establishment of an organisation for promoting proper use of fertilizers in the country. The decision is likely to be taken shortly.

Payment to Journalists for the Period of Strike

*1013. SHRI MADHU LIMYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Working Journalists and others have not been paid their salaries and allowances during the period the newspapers remained closed in the last year ;