

to the mines, construction of weigh-bridges, etc. Recently, a Study Group was constituted to examine the question of finance for mining industry. This Group has made certain proposals for liberalising the condition for grant of credit to mining industry and introducing in the commercial operations of the banks and other finance institutions a bias in favour of mining industry. These proposals are under consideration.

(b) Under the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, mortgage of mining leases is permissible for taking loans from financial institutions like Industrial Finance Corporations or from the scheduled banks.

Contributions made to Political Parties by Companies

*327. Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:

Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state the contributions made to the various political parties by Companies from the 1st April, 1966 to 31st March, 1967?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F.A. Ahmed). From the returns furnished by eight out of the sixteen Registrars of Companies, party-wise break-up of the political contributions by companies as disclosed in their profit and loss accounts filed with the Registrars during the period from 1st March, 1966 to 28th February, 1967 is as below:

Name of the Party	Total amount of contribution Rs.
1. Congress	6,27,538
2. Swatantra	13,320
3. Jan Sangh	2,488
4. P.S.P.	2,030
5. S.S.P.	1,021
6. I.N.T.U.C.	500
7. Hindu Maha Samiti	21
8. Akali Dal	10
	6,46,928

As financial years of companies vary widely, these figures to not necess-

sarily relate to contributions made during the period from 1st April, 1966 to 31st March, 1967 and in some cases may include contributions made earlier. The profit and loss accounts of companies for financial years ending after 30th June, 1966, which may contain a part of the desired information, may not have been submitted yet to Registrars of Companies in many cases as the maximum period available to the companies for submission of such accounts after the closing of the accounting year may extend to ten months after the closing date.

**Diesel Locomotive Workshop
Varanasi**

328. Shri C. Janardhanan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Diesel Locomotive Workshop, Varanasi is threatened with closure due to financial crisis; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to meet the crisis?

The Minister for Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Consolidation of Company Law

*329. Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the need to consolidate Company Law to make it an effective instrument to achieve its objectives and to eradicate the evils in the field of company administration has been examined;

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) and (b). Provisions of the Company Law were consolidated only eleven years ago and

the Companies, Act, 1956 was passed keeping the social and economic objectives in view. Its provisions are continuously under review and amending Acts were passed in 1960, 1963 and 1965 to eradicate evils and remove loopholes which came to notice.

(c) Criticisms and suggestions from all possible sources are taken careful note of in the Department and examined. If the need arises for bringing about any further changes, necessary amendments will be taken up at the appropriate time.

Production in Three-wheeler Vehicle Industries

*330. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Khagapathi Pradhani:
Shri Heerji Bhal:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production in the three-wheeler vehicle industries has gone down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) Yes, Sir. The production Three-wheelers has gone down to some extent.

(b) and (c). The fall in production is primarily due to the reduced allocation of foreign exchange made to the industry last year on account of foreign exchange difficulties. This industry has now been included in the list of industries eligible for assistance against the International Development Agency Credit and has been released foreign exchange for the import of components/raw materials to the extent of full utilization of the installed capacity. In view of this, it is anticipated that the production of three-wheelers will pick up during this year.

Factory in Kenya with India's Collaboration

*331. Shri Onkar Lal Berwa: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Bombay firm will help in the establishment of a Crown Cork, Cork Disk, Gaskets and Cork Liners Factory in Kenya;

(b) if so, the terms of the agreement; and

(c) how many more factories are proposed to be set up in Kenya with the Indian collaboration in the near future?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the arrangements approved, the Indian collaborator will supply from India, indigenous capital goods, equipment, tools, structuralists etc. worth Lb. 36,000 towards their share capital in the proposed venture. Besides, the Indian party will make available the requisite technical know-how required for the setting up of the project and also provide for the training of the local technicians in their works in India.

(c) Apart from this project which the Hon'ble Member has referred to, the Government of India have approved proposals from different Indian industrialists for the establishment of 7 more Joint industrial ventures in Kenya. One of these for cotton textiles is already in production.

Prices of Foodgrains and other Commodities

*332. Shri Abdul Ghani Dar:
Shri Mohasin:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the States where non-Congress Ministries have been formed, the prices of foodgrains and other commodities have considerably fallen;