

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chamma Reddy) (a) and (b). Hindustan Steel Limited has conducted certain sample studies in areas of likely surpluses which have indicated that such surpluses are mostly in the unskilled, semi-skilled and clerical categories. Surplus personnel are being adjusted wherever possible against additional requirements arising out of the expansion of the plants

(c) The whole question of the re-organisation of Hindustan Steel Limited in all its aspects is at present under the consideration of Government

हिन्दुस्तान स्टील, कलकत्ता

- * 1002 श्री जसि रजन
श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद:
श्री सीताराम कोसरी:
श्री ज्योतिष्वर्य बसू
श्री भगवान दास
श्री कं. हाल्वर
श्री रत्नानी:
श्री विश्वनाथ मैनन:

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिन्दुस्तान स्टील, कलकत्ता और उसके पांच कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध धायात-निर्वात प्रश्लियम के घन्तर्गत फौजदारी मुकदमे दाखल किये गये हैं,

(ख) यदि हा तो क्या सरकार ने उक्त कर्म के धायात लाइसेंस, कम से कम उस अवधि तक के लिये जब तक कि ये मुकदमे न्यायालय के बिचारधीन हैं, वापिस के लिये हैं, और

(ग) सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री दिनेश सिंह)
(क) हे. (ग). जी हा। जांच पूरी हो जाने पर मुख्य प्रेसीडेन्सी मजिस्ट्रेट, कलकत्ता जी घदालत में 3-6-1967 को मुकदमा दाखल किया गया। उक्त में लगे हुए मजदूरों के हितों और मोटरगाड़ियों आदि के निबाह उत्पादन की आवश्यकता को ध्यान में रखते हुए मुकदमे के दौरान लाइसेंसों का न देना व्यावहारिक नहीं समझा गया।

Requisitioning of Cotton-Bales

*1003 Shri C. C. Desai:

Shri R. K. Amin:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent measures of requisitioning of cotton-bales from the traders and supplying cotton at a fixed rate, has caused grave losses to thousands of traders and millions of cultivators,

(b) whether it is also a fact that such measures have proved ineffective in view of the fact that the cotton textile mills are free to sell yarn at any price in the market and about 60 per cent of the cotton textile production is not under price control, and

(c) whether the cotton requisition machinery has resulted into a new source of bribery for those who are in charge of it?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) to (c) Cotton has been requisitioned at the appropriate ceiling prices. There should not, therefore, be any question of loss to any grower or cultivator. The traders, who may have speculated and effected purchases at higher prices vis-a-vis the ceiling prices of cotton in the expectation that the ceilings would not be enforced by Government by requisitioning may have suffered losses. But for these measures, aimed at arresting the rise in prices and making cotton available to the consuming mills at fixed prices, they would have ruled at much higher levels. As regards re-

quisitioning leading to bribery, there have been no serious complaints to this effect

Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation

*1004. Shri S. K. Sambandhan: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation paid 'pugree' New Francs 5,50,000 for an accommodation in Paris,

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that it got the prior approval of Government, and

(c) if so, the circumstances under which the approval was given?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): (a) to (c) Affluent markets present great potential for export of handicrafts and handlooms Paris was, therefore, considered a good market for Indian handicrafts and handlooms After considering all aspects of the case, Government agreed to the proposal of Handlooms and Handicrafts Exports Corporation to open a shop-cum-depot in Paris

Proper location is a prime necessity for the success of such a project. With the help of the Indian Embassy in France, suitable premises were located at Rue Foubourg St Honore in Paris The terms for hiring these premises included lump sum payment of New Fr 5,50,000 in addition to a rent of New Fr 48,000 per annum This is based on the lease of these premises for a specified period of time, in this case nine years, renewable at the option of the Corporation. Payment of such lump sum is admissible under the French Law and is also taxable at the rate of 16 per cent Considering the facts that the shop has to be set up in a proper location easily accessible to buyers and that it is customary for payment of lump sum which is recoverable by the Corporation at the rates prevailing at the time the premises are released, it was decided to permit the hiring of the accommodation.

Setting up of Newsprint Factories

*1005. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Shri Yashpal Singh:

Shri Ram Gopal Shalwale:

Shri K. P. Singh Deo:

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

(a) whether Government propose to set up two newsprint factories in the co-operative or public sector with the help of UNESCO and with foreign collaboration,

(b) if so, when, and

(c) the total amount of expenditure on the scheme?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) to (c) There is no proposal at present for establishment of any newsprint plant in the country with the help of UNESCO However a proposal for the establishment of newsprint plant in Public Sector is still at exploratory stage and it is not possible to state at present as to when the proposal will materialise and how much will be the total amount of expenditure on the scheme

Public Sector Steel Plants

*1006. Shri Bhogendra Jha:

Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state-

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to reorganise the Public Sector Steel Plants; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chimanu Reddy): (a) and (b) As already stated in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 545 answered on the 28th May, 1967 the whole question of the future organisation of the public sector steel industry is pre-