

affect food production and drinking water supply; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet this eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) A news item about the said report has been noticed. Action for procuring a copy of the report has been initiated.

674. [Transferred to the 26th December, 1989]

मध्य प्रदेश में बन्द पड़ी कपड़ा मिलें

*75. श्री अजीत जोशी : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में इस समय कितनी कपड़ा मिलें बन्द पड़ी हैं ;

(ख) ये मिलें कब से बन्द पड़ी हैं और इन मिलों को फिर से चालू करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा क्या-क्या पहल की गयी है ; और

(ग) इन मिलों के बन्द होने से कितने कर्मकार और कर्मचारी बेरोजगार हो गये हैं और उनको वैकल्पिक रोजगार देने के लिये क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

वस्त्र मंत्री और साथ में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री (शरद यादव) : (क) दिनांक 31-10-1989 की स्थिति के अनुसार मध्य प्रदेश में दो सूती/मानव निमित्त रेशा वस्त्र एकक बन्द पड़े थे, इनके नाम हैं : मैसर्स होप टैक्सटाइल्स लिमिटेड, यूनिट 1 और मैसर्स होप टैक्सटाइल्स लि. यूनिट-2. (राय बहादुर कन्हैया लाल भंडारी मिलें), इन्दौर।

(ख) वे दोनों मिलें दिनांक 6-6-1986 से बन्द पड़ी हैं। सरकार ने एक नोडल एजेंसी स्थापित की थी, जिसका कार्य रूग्ण वस्त्र मिलों की अर्थक्षमता की जांच करना और इसके अन्तर्गत पार्सि मिलों के संदर्भ में पुनर्वासि पैकेज तैयार करना और उसे कार्यान्वित करना था। नोडल एजेंसी

ने होप टैक्सटाइल्स लि. के दोनों एककों की जांच की थी और इन्हें अर्थक्षम पाया। औद्योगिक वित्तीय पुनर्निर्माण बोर्ड इन मिलों के मामलों की जांच रूग्ण औद्योगिक कम्पनी (विशेष प्रावधान) अधिनियम, 1985 के प्रावधानों के तहत कर रहा है और आशा है कि अगर संभव हुआ, तो इसे फिर से चालू करने के लिये उपयुक्त सुधारात्मक एवं उपचारात्मक उपाय किये जायेंगे।

(ग) इन मिलों के बन्द हो जाने से 2,636 कामगार बेरोजगार हो गये हैं। राज्य सरकार को सलाह दी गई है कि प्रभावित कामगारों के पुनर्वासि के लिये उपाय किये जायें और ऐसे कामगारों को सहायता देने के लिये वस्त्र कामगार पुनर्वासि निधि योजना के तहत सुविधाओं का भी लाभ उठाया जाये।

Abandoning of the Gandha Mardan Bauxite mining project

*76. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Aluminium Company Limited has decided to abandon the Gandha Mardan Bauxite mining project at Sambalpur in Orissa;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what amount has been spent on the project till the date of its closure?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH THE ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The question of abandoning the project is under consideration of Government.

(b) The work on the Gandha Mardan Bauxite Project of BALCO has been at a standstill since December, 1985, due to agitation and continue resistance by sections of the local population. The State

Government of Orissa have advised shifting of the Project to another suitable site outside Orissa.

(c) An expenditure of Rs 26.55 crores has been incurred on the Project till October, 1989.

Steps to check rise in prices of essential commodities

*77 SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the price situation in the country; if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to check rise in prices of essential commodities;

(b) whether any directives have been issued to the various Ministries and Departments concerned; if so, in what form and whether they are time-bound; and

(c) whether Government are contemplating a package of measures, including fiscal measures, to control price escalation if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) The Government accords the highest priority to the control of inflation. A Cabinet Committee on Prices has been appointed to review the price situation and take necessary steps in this direction. The measures to control price rise include removing imbalances in demand and supply of essential commodities, mopping up excess liquidity in the economy and vigorous enforcement of existing laws against hoarding and profiteering. The appointment of the Committee will ensure timely and quick action by the concerned agencies of the Government.

Settlement of Cauvery Dispute

*78 SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state what action Government propose to take on the proposal submitted by the late Chief Minister, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran, to refer the long standing Cau-

very dispute on Tribunal in order to settle it amicably and to rehabilitate the farmers/peasants of Tanjore region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANOBHAI KOTADIA): The matter is under consideration.

Ban on the use of colours in food and confectionary items

*79. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have banned the use of colours in food and confectionary items;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Confederation of Indian Food and Trade Industry have requested Government to review the matter; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV):

(a) and (b) Out of 11 permitted synthetic food colours in specific food items under the provisions of prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has decided to ban 3 synthetic colours, namely (1) Amaranth, (2) Fast Red E and (3) Green S. Maximum limit of synthetic colours to be used in specific food items is also proposed to be reduced from the existing limit of 200 mg/kg. to 100 mg/kg. Use of synthetic colours in food articles generally consumed by children is also recommended to be discontinued. Accordingly, a draft notification has been issued vide G.S.R. 851 (E) dated 26th September, 1989 for inviting comments and enclosed herewith as statement. (See below).