

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) to, (c) According to the preliminary studies carried out by the Tripura State Government their proposal is to set up a paper mill with a capacity of 250/300 tonnes per annum at a cost of about Rs. 80 crores. In view of the high investment involved possibilities of external assistance were explored. Since there is no likelihood of immediate external assistance, the mode of financing and the size of the project are to be decided after detailed studies are made regarding infra-structural facilities), techno-economic feasibility and phasing of investment with reference to domestic demand and proposals of other States in North Eastern Region for the establishment of Paper mills.

Manufacture of *zari* in Varanasi

728. SHRIMATUAMUNA DEVI: SHRI RAMESHWAR SINGH: SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) by when permission is likely to be granted for the manufacture of *zari* in Varanasi for use in the *zari* saree industry in that city; and

(b) what steps Government are taking to save the *zari* saree industry from the crisis as *zari* brought from Surat gets black after some time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) From the context, it is presumed that the Hon'ble Member has referred to pure Zari. This Ministry is not required to grant any permission for the manufacture of pure Zari in the Zari industry.

(b) This Ministry has not received any complaint regarding poor quality of Zari brought from Surat

Visit to Saudi Arabia by the Minister of Industry

729. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH SHRI HARISHANKAR BHABHARA: SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: SHRI LAKHAN SINGH: SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has recently visited Saudi Arabia as a Special Emissary of Prime Minister and held discussions on various matters with the Saudi Arabian leaders; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the discussions specially in regard to import of petroleum and cooperation in different fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI-MATI ABHA MAITI): (a) and (b) The main purpose to the visit of the Union Minister of Industry to Saudi Arabia in January, 1979 was to establish contacts with the Saudi Arabian leadership for promoting close friendly ties between the two countries and strengthening industrial and economic cooperation. This objective was fulfilled. Modalities were agreed to for joint ventures, participation of Indian firms in several identified Saudi Arabian projects including electrification schemes where the initiative taken by BHEL in their on-going project of electrification has been commended. It was also arranged that Saudi Arabian delegations would visit India in order to be apprised of the expertise, technology and capability developed in India for undertaking projects in Saudi Arabia. Several other important matters of industrial and economic cooperation relating to oil supplies, financing of agriculture, irrigation and electricity projects in India, exports of commodities from India and reputation of Indian personnel were discussed for implementation.

The details of new joint venture projects and their implementation would

arise from arrangements to be concluded by organisations and parties of both the countries.

Closure of industrial units

730. SHRI SAWAISINGH
SISODIA: SHRIMATI
HAMIDA
HABIBULLAH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of industrial units closed down on account of their being sick, or on account of malpractices or some other reasons during the year, 1978-79;

(b) what is the number out of them which have been taken over by Government during that year; and

(c) what is the number of persons rendered unemployed on account of closure of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (c). Information regarding the industrial units lying closed in the country and details pertaining to them are not centrally maintained in this Ministry. However, information which is centrally collected by the Ministry of Labour on factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948, which are lying closed for long or short duration is given in standard tabulated forms published in the Indian Labour Journal which is a monthly publication of the Labour Bureau, Government of India. Copies of the publication are available in Parliament House Library.

(b) The management of 11 industrial undertakings has been taken over under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act,

1951 during the financial year 1978-79. Demand and supply of wrist watches

731. SHRI SAWAISINGH
SISODIA: SHRI GURUDEV
GUPTA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the demand and supply of the wrist watches

in the country during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) what is the estimated demand and supply of the watches for the year 1979-80?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b). The precise estimate of demand of a consumer item like wrist watches is difficult to compute. However, a Task Force on watch industry constituted by this Ministry has broadly worked out the estimate of demand and production of wrist watches as given below:

(in million pieces)		
Year	Demand	Production
1976	5	1.4
1977	6	4
1978	6.5	5.6
1979	7	5.4

All efforts are being made to maximise domestic production of wrist watches to meet the demand for it.

Quantity of cotton purchased by the Cotton Corporation of India

732. SHRI GHOUSE MOHTUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state what is the total quantity of cotton purchased, by the Cotton Corporation of India during the year 1978?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): The Cotton Corporation of India has purchased 5.16 lakh bales upto 22-2-1979 during the current season.

Decontrol of the prices of scooters of various makes

733. SHRI A. P. JANARDHANAM:
SHRI M. KADERSHAH: SHRI E.
R. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;