

Industries has submitted its recommendations which will be implemented as soon as decisions are taken thereon.

(c) The figures of employment and the value of wages provided during the last two years industry-wise are not readily available as the cottage industries cover a wide spectrum of artisan activities.

Protection of coir industry

2040. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what measures Government have undertaken to support, promote and protect coir industry during the last two years;

(b) what measures are proposed to be taken to develop this industry in different States, State-wise; and

(c) what is the number of persons employed in this industry along with the wages provided by the industry in last two years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

The actual implementation of the developmental programmes in respect of coir industry is the responsibility of State Governments under their respective Plan Schemes. The Central Government has established the Coir Board, a statutory organisation under the Coir Industry Act, 1903 to ensure development of Coir Industry on proper lines. The functions of the Coir Board mainly consist of promotion of Experts of Coir and coir goods and carrying out effective propaganda for the purpose, regulating the production of coir and coir goods, undertaking, assisting and

encouraging scientific, technological and economic research, collection of statistics, dissemination to the trade, fixing grade standards and arranging inspection of coir goods, improving the marketing of coir and coir goods, promoting cooperative organisations, ensuring remunerative returns to those engaged in the industry etc. In furtherance of its activities, the following units function under the Board:

1. Central Coir Research Institute Kalavoor, Alleppey.

2. National Coir Training and Design Centre, Alleppey.

3. Hindustan Coir, Kalavoor.

4. Branch Research Station, Bangalore.

5. Showrooms and Sales Depots at New Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore, Ernakulam, Madurai, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Patna, Jammu, Hyderabad, and Ahmedabad.

2. The Government constituted a High Level Study Team under the Chairmanship of Shri B. Sivaramah, Member, Planning Commission to suggest suitable measures for overcoming the problems and for a rapid and healthy development of industry, the programme to be undertaken by the State Government, and Centre, including the Coir Board and the role of the Financial Institutions for ensuring fuller utilisation of husks and yarn and increasing internal sales etc. The Study Team has since submitted its report. In the light of the recommendations and in consultation with the major coir producing States appropriate programmes for implementation will be taken up.

3. Since the Coir Industry is essentially a cottage industry, the basic data on employment, wages etc. are not readily available. However, it

is estimated that the industry provides employment to about half a million people in the different sectors.

Establishment of Salt Cess Board

2041. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for the establishment of a salt cess board to determine the utilisation of salt cess, if so, when it was received; and

(b) what are the reasons for delay in taking a decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) The State Government of Gujarat has reiterated in June 1978 the proposal made by them earlier from time to time for the constitution of a Salt Cess Board.

(b) The State Government has been informed that a High Level Review Committee for Salt Industry would be appointed which would, among other things, look into matters relating to collection and utilisation of Salt Cess. The Committee has been appointed in November 1978 and is expected to submit its report within six months.

Refusal of lodging of complaint by police at Kotwali Police Station

2042. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Statesman' of the 7th March, 1979, regarding refusal by the Kotwali Police Delhi to register a complaint of a lady;

(b) whether any enquiry has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Enquiries revealed that a mentally deranged woman who was clad in a tattered saree was brought to the police station by some persons for providing necessary protection to her. However, the S.I. who was the night Emergency Officer and an ASI who was the Duty Officer at Kotwali P.S. did not give the matter proper attention and had also not recorded the correct version in the Daily Diary entry. The woman remained in the reporting room for some time and then left the Police Station. Departmental proceedings have been ordered against both the ASI and SI. The former has also been placed under suspension.

Culprits in shooting incident in South Extension, New Delhi

2043. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the culprits involved in a shooting incident on the 5th March, 1979 in a South Delhi restaurant have been arrested;

(b) if so, what are the details of the incident and what is the number of persons involved;

(c) whether it is a fact that one of the culprits was arrested last year and was released on bail; and

(d) if so, what are the particulars of his past record?