

conditions of service were limited to general principles and individual cases were excluded from discussion.

(b) A statement showing the action taken on the various recommendations of the A.R. Commission has already been laid on the Table of the House on the 18th November, 1977 in fulfilment of the assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 543 by late Shri Prakash Veer Shastri, M.P. on the 23rd June, 1977.

(c) In pursuance of a decision of the National Council (JCM), Government issued instructions in July, 1967, that the Staff Councils would be abolished as soon as Regional/Office Councils under the JCM Scheme started functioning.

(d) In October, 1966, Government introduced a Scheme for Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration for Central Government Employees, with the object of promoting harmonious relations and of securing the greatest measure of Co-operation between Government and the general body of its employees. The Scheme provides for Joint Councils at three tiers; a National Council at the national level covering generally all employees of Central Government; Departmental Councils at the level of the Ministries/Departments including the employees of their Attached and Subordinate offices; and Office/Regional Councils for individual offices, for discussions and consultations with the representatives of the staff on matters of common concern coming within the purview of the Scheme. The scope of the Joint Councils includes all matters relating to conditions of work and service, welfare of employees, improvement of efficiency and standards of work, provided, however, that (i) in regard to recruitment, promotion and discipline, consultation will be limited to matters of general principles and (ii) individual cases will not be covered. This Scheme continues to be operative.

Mismanagement and loss of production in textile mills

1176. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is mismanagement and loss of production in the five mills owned by the Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd. at Kanpur, Naini, Pondicherry, Maunath-bhajan and Rae Bareli;

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

(c) whether Government are contemplating to take over these mills;

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

(e) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) and (b) There had been reports on the deterioration in the working of the cotton textile mills under the management of Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. A techno-economic survey has been completed by the officers of the Textile Commissioner and the survey report has just been received. A preliminary study of the report shows that the mills have been suffering losses for a variety of reasons and there has been a fall in production. There has been an internal dissension in the management also.

(c) to (e) Any remedial action would require thorough study of the survey reports. However, since NTC is already shouldering a heavy responsibility of managing 105 cotton textile mills. Central Government is not in favour of taking over more mills for management by this Corporation. If any viable proposition emerges for the mills being managed by the State Government, the Central Government would render legal and administrative assistance.