

Lock-out in the Indian Standards Institution

298. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:
SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO:

SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a lock out has recently been declared in the Indian Standards Institution; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons there for?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) The terms "lock out" applies to industry, and the I.S.I. being only an Institution the question of lock out in the Institution does not arise. However, the functioning of the I.S.I.'s Headquarters Office remained suspended from 17th May to 9th June, 1974.

(b) The Institution's work had been paralysed by cessation of work, agitation and noisy demonstration by a large section of Grades II, III & IV of ISI Employees from 22nd March to 16th May, 1974 who were agitating for enhancement of House Rent Allowance from 20 to 25 percent on the revised pay scales. A situation had arisen in which keeping the Institution open was fraught with risk and danger to its property and to loyal employees.

Reorganisation of Directorate General of Technical Development

299. SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO:

SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Technical Development has been reorganised; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the new set up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the reorganisation lay emphasis on technical development functions rather than on regulatory functions, in which it was more prominent in the past. The major plank of strategy is increased communications and rapport with industries, associations of industry, research and developments Organisations, Chambers of Commerce and Industry etc. on matters relating to increased export generation, import substitution, conservation of scarce imported materials, technological improvements etc.

2 Divisions/Directorates concerned with energy conservation, technology development, policy and plans, material conservation and informations system have been formed.

Talks on Jammu and Kashmir

300. SHRI D. K. PATEL:

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHAINAI:
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR
ADIVAREKAR:

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI:

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

DR. Z. A. AHMAD:

SHRI L. MAHAPATRO:

SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

SHRI S. G. SARDESAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks were held recently between the External Affairs Minister and Sheikh Abdullah on the question of Jammu and Kashmir; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI UMASHANKAR DIKSHIT): (a)

and (b) In the light of the statements made by Sheikh Mohamad Abdullah to the effect that he regarded himself committed to the act of accession of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to India, Government of India, after consulting the State Government, agreed that Shri G. Parthasarathy and Sheikh Abdullah's nominee, Shri Afzal Beg, could meet with a view to exchanging ideas. In continuation of the discussions held between the two, Shri Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs, met Sheikh Abdullah and had talks with him in June, 1974. The discussions are continuing.

Use of Ambar Charkha

301. SHRIMATI SARASWATI PRA-
DHAN:

SHRI K. B. CHETTRI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount so far spent on the Ambar Charkha Project; and

(b) the number of Ambar Charkhas now in use in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) An amount of Rs. 1,914.19 lakhs was spent on the Ambar Charkha Project (including New Model Charkha Programmes) upto 31st March, 1973.

(b) 1,58,085 Ambar Charkhas (including New Model Charkhas) are in use in the country.

Home for aged and infirm freedom fighters

302. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN:

SHRI A. N. MULLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 467 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th March, 1974 and state:

(a) by when first temporary home for the aged, infirm, ailing and physically handi-

capped freedom fighters is proposed to be set up in Delhi;

(b) by when accommodation for the purpose is likely to be available; and

(c) by when applications for admission to the home are proposed to be entertained?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) It has already been decided to set up a temporary Home in Delhi for about 25 aged and infirm freedom fighters who have $\bar{n}\bar{o}$ one to look after.

(b) and (c) The procedure for admission to the temporary Home will be finalised after suitable accommodation has been secured and other administrative arrangements have been completed.

Suicides in the country

303. SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of suicides committed in the country during the last three years; and

(b) what are the reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a)

Year			Number of suicides
1970	48428
1971	43675
1972	36330*

*Excluding West Bengal.

(b) Various socio-economic and psychological tensions are the main contributory factors to the committing of suicides.

Cauvery water issue

304 SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts Government have recently made to settle the Cauvery Water Issue; and