

(b) the total number of workers affected thereby;

(c) whether any of the State Government have approached the Government of India for assistance in tiding over the crisis-

(d) if so, what are the concrete proposals advanced by them; and

(e) what steps the Government of India have taken to help them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) 21 in Madras, 4 in Kerala and none in Pondicherry.

(b) 14,717.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Government of Madras suggested appointment of Investigation Committees under the Industries (Development, and Regulation) Act, 1951, to enquire into the affairs of 20 textile mills in Madras State. 3 Investigation Committees have accordingly been appointed covering the 20 textile mills suggested by the Madras Government. Further steps, if any, will be considered after the reports of the Investigation Committees are received.

2. Though there is no closed textile mills in Pondicherry, the Government of Pondicherry have suggested giving of guarantees of Rs. 7 lakhs and Rs. 50 lakhs to the Cannanore Spg. and Wvg. Mills Ltd., Mahe, and Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., respectively, to enable them to get advances from Commercial Banks. They have also suggested appointment of an expert Committee to enquire into the financial and technical position of the Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Pondicherry. An Officers' Group has been set up to consider the request for a guarantee of Rs. 7 lakhs in respect of Cannanore Spg. and Wvg. Mills Ltd., Mahe, while for Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Pondicherry, the Textile Commissioner has been directed to conduct a quick survey into the financial and technical position of the mills. The request of the Swadeshi Cotton Mills for a Guarantee of Rs. 50 lakhs would be considered after the Survey report is received.

3. The Government of Kerala have not approached the Government of India for assistance.

BRITISH STEEL CORPORATION TEAMS' REPORT ON DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT

*20. SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 386 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 1968 and state:

(a) whether the British Steel Corporation team which visited the Durgapur Steel Works early this year to appraise the requirements of the project has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the report; and

(c) what decision has been taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SE7H1). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The report has been received only last week and is under examination.

RENI JUNTA-MADRAS PASSENGER COLLISION WITH STATIONARY TRAIN

*21. SHRI M. K. MOHTA:

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA :

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR:

SARDAR RAM SINGH:

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Renigunta-Madras Passenger collided with another stationary train at Renigunta station of the Southern Railway on 28th May, 1968;

(b) if so, the details of the casualties and the details of railway property damaged through the process of accident;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the families of the persons killed in the accident; and

(d) whether any investigation has been made in to the causes of the accident and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) A goods train ex Arkonam to Dhond collided with