

DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR TEXTILE
MACHINERY

*234. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a demand from the textile machinery manufacturing industry for establishment of a Development Council; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether it is considered necessary to establish such a Council?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The Estimates Committee has recommended the establishing of such a Council. The Development Councils were instituted in March, 1961 and the Development Council for the Textile Industry includes this aspect also. We are watching the performance of this Development Council and if it is found necessary to have a separate Council for the textile machinery manufacturing industry, it may be established.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Am I to understand that no firm decision has been taken about establishing this Council and that if circumstances need it, it will be established?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Yes; we are hoping that such Development Councils for machine building may be necessary for various industries like cement, sugar, textiles and so on. If it is not, because textile machinery may be needed in large quantities, we may consider it.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know the composition of this Council and on what basis it is composed?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: There are nineteen Development Councils and the pattern of representation on them is like this: Persons capable of representing the interests of the industrial undertakings, persons having special knowledge of the industry and its technical and other aspects, persons employed in industrial undertakings, persons not belonging to the above-stated categories, but capable of representing the interests of the consumers.

ALL INDIA HANDLOOM FABRICS MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD., AND THE HANDLOOM EXPORT ORGANISATION

*235. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the functions of (i) the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited and (ii) the Handloom Export Organisation; and

(b) whether the question of amalgamating the two bodies has been considered by Government?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) The functions of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited are to develop inter-States sales of handloom fabrics within the country. It also assists in a limited way in exports to traditional markets as it has five trading centres abroad. The Handloom Export Organisation which is a subsidiary of the State Trading Corporation do not deal in internal marketing at all but is exclusively devoted to exports.

(b) There is no need to do so.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know the total number of membership of both these committees?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: As far as the Handloom Export Organisation is concerned, it consists of officials, whereas on the All India Handloom

Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society, there are 11 members nominated by the co-operative societies.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: The hon. Minister in reply to a supplementary question some days back said that there had been a fall in the export of our handloom cloth. May I know what steps these two bodies have taken to increase the export of handloom cloth within the last few years?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, I have already replied to this question elaborately. It is true that they have fallen and we are trying to push them up by direct sales by more vigorous salesmanship and I do hope that within the next few years we will be able to catch up.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know why the export has gone down?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Because of the competition from the other exporting countries. Secondly, the importing countries, since textiles is a primary industry, are keen on developing the industry themselves and so our traditional markets for handloom cloth take less as they get industrialised in this particular sector. Even so, we hope that there is scope for more production and for pushing up the sales at home and outside.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE WORKERS OF OIL COMPANIES IN ASSAM

*236. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 4,000 workers employed by the contractors on behalf of the Oil Companies in Assam have submitted a memorandum to Government;

(b) if so, what are the contents of the memorandum; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI):

(a) and (b) A representation was received from the Assam Oil Company Contractors' Labour Union on behalf of the workers of Oil India Ltd. demanding that conciliation may be held on the charter of demands regarding non-payment and under payment of wages, medical benefits etc., and reference of their dispute to arbitration if conciliation fails.

(c) The dispute was not taken up for conciliation as the Union was not considered competent to represent the workers concerned. A settlement in conciliation was, however, arrived at between the Assam Petroleum Mazdoor Union and the contractors' of Oil India on 23rd December, 1961 settling the main issue regarding fixation of wages, and work is reported to be going on normally.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: What is the answer to the third part of my question, i.e. whether the Central Government has taken any action in this matter?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Now that there has been a settlement on conciliation and the strike has fizzled out, no action is necessary.

'OVALTINE' AND CHEESE FACTORIES

*237. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an 'Ovaltine' manufacturing plant near Bangalore and a cheese manufacturing factory in Mandya in Mysore State are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): An application for the grant of a licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act for setting up of an Ovaltine factory in Mysore State has been received and is under consideration. One