

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : I cannot exactly say. We will have to wait for this report and it will reveal so many interesting points.

ENTRUSTING EXPORT PROMOTION
TO LEADING BUSINESSMEN

*74. { SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY
SHRI ARJUN ARORA:†

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to entrust leading businessmen in the country with the task of export promotion; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) Government are reviewing the institutional arrangements for export promotion with a view to making them more effective. At present businessmen are associated with the Central Export Promotion Advisory Council, Port Advisory Committees, various commodity Boards and export promotion councils. Chambers of Commerce and Export Promotion Institutions may be consulted before any changes are introduced in the existing pattern.

(b) Does not arise.

*75. [The questioner (Shrimati Yashoda Reddy) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 656-57 infra.]

CLOSED COTTON TEXTILE MILLS

*76. SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cotton textile mills which remained closed since 1958 and their State-wise distribution;

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Arjun Arora.

(b) the reasons for which the mills were incapable of reviving their operations; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for reallocating their equivalent capacity?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) 11 mills, one each in Gujarat and Mysore, two each in Madras, Orissa and Rajasthan and three in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The reasons why these mills were incapable of re-opening were either (i) the financial difficulties of the Management or (ii) the obsolete condition of the machinery of the mills which were only fit to be scrapped, or (iii) legal proceedings instituted for the winding up of the mills.

(c) Of the 11 mills referred to in answer to part (a) it is possible that 5 may be revived. Of the 6 mills which will have to be eventually scrapped, the capacity of one has been already re-allotted. The question of re-allotting the rest is under consideration.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know whether in re-allocating the capacity the regional strength of the industry will not be disturbed?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No, it will be done in the same State. So automatically the regional strength remains.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Just now the hon. Minister has mentioned that some of the mills have been closed because of financial difficulties. May I know the number of mills which have been closed because of financial difficulties? Secondly, may I know whether the hon. Minister has enquired if the owners of these mills have not invested a large amount of capital in other industries in recent years?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is not exactly the point. One of the reasons is financial but the basic