

collapsed in the development section of the Bachra Colliery of the National Coal Development Corporation in the District of Hazaribagh on May 29, 1960; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the incident?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) Yes.

(b) A mass of roof stone, fell from a height of 2.25 metres and struck a gang of workers employed in a four-way junction, as a result of which five persons were killed and one escaped with serious bodily injuries.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know when the inspector inspected this spot before and after the accident?

SHRI ABID ALI: Before the accident on 18/5, and shortly after the accident also.

SHRI FARIDUL HUQ ANSARI: May I know, Sir, whether any compensation has been paid to the families of the deceased?

SHRI ABID ALI: Of course, Sir.

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH: May I know, Sir, what is the reason for this accident? The reason has not been given.

SHRI ABID ALI: I have said, Sir, that as a result of a mass of stone roof falling down this accident took place.

LICENCES FOR SETTING UP NEW PAPER MILLS

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

(a) whether any new licences have so far been issued in 1960 for establishing new paper mills in India;

(b) whether any of the present paper mills have been authorised to increase their present capacity of production; and

(c) when the local production is likely to meet country's demands?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Excepting specialised types of paper, the indigenous production is almost sufficient to meet the present demand.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, what are the specialised types of paper which are not being manufactured in India at present, and whether there is any proposal to manufacture them in future?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: As it is, practically all the paper, of every variety, is being made, even specialised ones but not so far in adequate quantities, and they are grease-proof paper, craft paper, tissue paper, toilet paper, M.G. paper, art paper, etc., and many factories have been licensed to manufacture even these specialised papers.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, the approximate time by which India is expected to achieve self-sufficiency in paper?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: In white printing paper we may be self-sufficient—as a matter of fact may be a little surplus—by the second or third year of the Third Plan.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: May I know, Sir, the number of new licences issued in 1960 and the estimated production of the new units?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: We have approved 71 new schemes so far in the last few years of a total capacity of 9,60,000 tons as against the Third Plan target of a capacity of 9,00,000 tons. We are continuing to give more licences as we go along.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: The hon. Minister was pleased to say some months back that as far as bagasse was concerned, some quantity was sent to a German firm or some German

experts to find out whether bagasse could be used for the manufacture of paper. I want to know whether the process of using bagasse is economical and whether they are going to start a paper mill in Andhra.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is a different question. That is meant for newsprint. We had sent bagasse to West Germany, and as I had informed the House in the last session, the reports on economic manufacture of newsprint from bagasse are not yet very reliable. However, as far as the manufacture of white printing paper is concerned, already six factories in the large-scale sector and the small-scale sector have been licensed to manufacture white printing paper using entirely bagasse.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I now, Sir, what is the position in respect of white printing paper today?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is what I said. The production figures may be seen and in the last three years production has jumped from 2,00,000 tons to 3,50,000 tons in the current year.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: May I know, Sir, whether there is any scheme with Government for small-scale production of paper?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: I am glad that the hon. Member raised this question, because this is very much to our heart. We have approved four manufacturers to make 2-ton per day plants, 5-ton per day plants and 10-ton per day plants and we are going on with it. As many as 59 schemes have already been licensed and another 150 schemes in the small-scale sector are going to be licensed to manufacture paper using the raw materials available in the country, like bagasse, rice-straw, wheat-straw, rags, waste paper, soft wood.

DR. NIHAR RANJAN RAY: The hon. Minister just said that the production of ordinary paper is almost adequate. I don't understand the adjective 'almost'. Is he aware that in

the schools, colleges and universities we cannot get even 50 per cent. of our paper requirements, the ordinary white paper of 24 lbs. and 28 lbs.?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: When I said, 'almost'. I meant that we were still short of the white printing paper, and as the House knows, through the State Trading Corporation we are importing about 25,000 tons, and during the next two years, as I assure hon. Members, it will be possible to make the country more self-sufficient in regard to white printing paper.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know, Sir, whether any new newsprint factory has been licensed and what are our requirements of newsprint?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It won't arise out of this question.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: May I know, Sir, whether Government is giving any encouragement whatsoever to hand-made paper?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Yes, Sir, as a matter of fact there is Kalpi which was a historical centre—as mentioned in the puranas—for the manufacture of paper, in those early times, in this country; practically we were the first in the world—next to China—to manufacture paper, and it has been much developed. Today over a crore of rupees worth of hand-made paper is made in the country.

SHORTAGE AND MANUFACTURE OF FILM

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

(a) whether there is any shortage of raw film in the country and if so, what steps have been taken by Government in the matter;

(b) whether any licence has been granted for manufacturing film in India; and