

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 VLJAIVAR-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 SAVTTRY 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

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, by when the production is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A scheme in the Public Sector has been licensed for 4.4 million sq. meters of cinematographic films, X-ray, Roll and Sheet films.

(c) The production is expected to start by the middle of 1962 or later.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, if the hon. Minister is aware that there is an acute shortage of X-ray films and can tell us how this is being met at present?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: I would not agree with the contention about the X-ray films, because we have been particularly liberal with X-ray films, and as I assured the House last time, if any hospital feels any shortage of X-ray films, I would be obliged to get the necessary information.

SHRI BIREN ROY: Who are supplying the plant and the know-how for these raw films?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It is Messrs. Bauchet of France.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: Where are these manufactured please?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: At Ootacamund.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Work on the project has not yet started, and so how does the hon. Minister expect the production in 1962?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Work has started in a very very intensive manner. Tests are being carried out; machinery details have been finalised; agreement has been signed and all the necessary steps are being taken.

*320. [The questioners (Shri Babu-bhai Chinai, Shri K. K. Shah and Shri M. M. Mehta) were absent. For answer, vide cols. 1463-64 infra.]

PARKS IN NEW DELHI

*321. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state whether Government have received any communication from the New Delhi Municipal Committee regarding the transfer of control of public parks in New Delhi to the New Delhi Municipal Committee, and if so, with what results?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): A proposal for the transfer of a Horticulture Sub-Division from the control of the Horticulture Directorate of the Central Public Works Department to the New Delhi Municipal Committee was received from the Chief Commissioner Delhi but its consideration was dropped as it was subsequently withdrawn by him.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: How much money is the Horticulture Department spending on these parks and the number of personnel working on them?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: The Horticultural Directorate does this work on behalf of the New Delhi Municipal Committee, and they pay us every year, roughly speaking, Rs. 4 lakhs.

J SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I now, Sir, why this question was raised by the New Delhi Municipal Committee if the condition was quite satisfactory?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: It is more than what I can say. The Municipal Committee at one time had wanted that this work be transferred to them and we were quite agreeable.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know, Sir, if the hon. Deputy Minister is aware that a number of