

Chief Administrator. I have not received the scheme. If I receive it, I am prepared to have it examined.

DR. A. N. BOSE: I say again that no reply was received even after a reminder. The same scheme was sent to the Minister. It was handed over to the Secretary who promised to forward it to the Minister. In any case may I pass on this scheme to the Minister?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I have no objection to receiving it. May I say for the information of the House . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Bose, he says you may send it on to him. He has no objection to receiving it.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I would like to supplement my reply by saying this that we have got now a Rehabilitation Industries Corporation which deals with the question of setting up of industries in the Eastern Region. They are the proper authority. The moment I get a scheme I shall pass it on to the Corporation concerned.

DR. A. N. BOSE: What was the harm in communicating this thing to the correspondent? He is writing again and again without getting any reply.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I am saying that I have not received it, and I want my statement to be accepted. If I have received, I will look into it.

CHARKHA PRIZE SCHEME

♦599. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report on the result of the Charkha Prize Scheme for the award of Rs. 1 lakh to the best invention of a cottage spinning unit; and

(b) if so, what are its details?

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

(b) The panel of judges has not recommended the award of prize to any of the competitors as the models submitted by them do not fulfil the conditions laid down for the grant of the award.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know the number of entries and the models actually received?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: About 170 entries including 30 models were received, and about 9 or 10 actual experiments were carried on on different models. As a result of the examination, even though the new Charkha does not come up to expectations for the grant of an award, the Commission has decided that for those improvements which the individual models contain and which might be useful for the Ambar Charkha, some prizes may be given.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know what were the tests fixed for the models?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The tests are well known to the House. It is a big statement containing items (a) to (k). Shall I read out, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: What was the minimum requirement for the passing of the Charkha?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The fulfilment of these ten tests to which they did not come up. The hon. Member perhaps is quite aware of these conditions. If he wants, I will send him a copy.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know the names of the judges? May I also know if all of them were well versed in Charkha and spinning?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: They are experts which this country has fortunately got. The Chairman of course,

was Shri Mahavir Tyagi. The members were the following: Shri B. Ramaswamy of Ahmedabad, a textile spinner who has helped in the evolution of Ambar Charkha, Shri Krishna-das Gandhi who has been himself a life-long servant of the All-India Spinners Association and is an honoured member of the Sarva Seva Sangh, Shri Vichitra Narain Sharma who is the Minister of Local Self-Government and Rural Industries in Uttar Pradesh and who has all his life been engaged in the production of *khadi*. Shri K. G. Deodhar who is the Principal of the Nasik Vidyalaya on Khadi. Shri G. Venkatachalapathy who is a member of the Board of the Khadi Commission.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Am I to know that the Chairman is well versed in this subject?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Is it necessary that all the members should be well versed in Charkhas? There are six members attached to him.

SHRI T. D. PUSTAKE: Is the prize still open?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The prize as it is not open, but we do feel that there should be a continuous incentive so that awards either every year or once in two years could be considered for the improvement of not only Ambar Charkha but all instruments of production in rural industries.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I wanted to know what is likely to be the cost of this cottage spinning unit for the innovation of which an award of Rs. 1 lakh is proposed.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The whole idea was to make, as far as possible, within one hundred rupees a self-contained domestic spinning unit with the preparatory parts thereof. Even though the limits were kept at Rs. 150, none of them could come within those limits.

MODEL MILLS, NAGPUR LIMITED, NAGPUR

*600. SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry into the affairs and accounts of Model Mills, Nagpur Limited, Nagpur has been completed; and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the Enquiry Committee?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO) : (a) and (b). The Investigation Committee has submitted a report. The report is a confidential document and it would not be "in the public interest to disclose the recommendations of the Investigation Committee.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know, Sir, whether any finding has been given regarding the propriety or impropriety of the closure of the Model Mills and if it was not proper to close the mills, whether any action has been taken against the management for closing the mills and retrenching thousands of workers?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The mill is working now under the Authorised Controller appointed by the Bombay Government and as for the reasons, investigations are continuing, and after the results of the investigations are known, proper steps will be taken.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know, Sir, when the mills will be reopened and what the conditions imposed will be?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Well, the mills will be reopened according to the convenience, I mean when arrangements are completed by the Authorised Controller who has already been appointed.

SHRI B. D. KHOBARAGADE: May I know, Sir, whether any wage cut