

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: To that point the hon. Minister of Planning has already replied. I do not know what exactly is the point which the hon. Member is stressing.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: My question is simple. As they have raised this extra amount, are the Centre going to encourage them by giving them extra?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you encourage in that way?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: It is a hypothetical question. We will see what the facts of the case are in a particular State.

DR. P. C. MITRA: May I know how much allocation is made for Bihar?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: In the year 1958-59 the Bihar allocation was of the order of Rs. 30.33 crores. If the hon. Member wants the Central assistance for Bihar, it was of the order of Rs. 16.73 crores.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Is it a fact that Madhya Pradesh has been collecting its quota and that the assistance due to it has not been given to it?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: No, Sir. The Centre is doing justice in each case. But if the hon. Member has any grievances and if he has got concrete facts in support, we would like to know them.

(Some hon. Members stood up.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everybody is asking about Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, etc. Next question.

IMPORT OF SODA ASH

*351. **SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state what is the quantity of soda ash imported in the first three months of the year 1959?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): 3750 tons of

soda ash were imported during January, 1959. Statistics regarding the imports for February and March 1959 are yet to be compiled.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that calcium carbonate is being produced at Sindri?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Yes.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know the reason why sodium carbonate cannot be produced in Sindri?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is a by-product of the fertiliser process, a process by which calcium carbonate and not sodium carbonate is produced.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether any proposals have been submitted by the Salt Laboratory at Jaipur for the manufacture of soda ash?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: What they have done is to take out from the Sambhar salt where the natural soda ash is available—to separate by what is called the crystallisation process the soda ash out of it. That is under consideration and the process is still not finalised.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is produced to give licence for setting up a soda ash factory in the near future?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The House would be glad to know if I repeat the same answer as I gave to the two other questions regarding the tyre and the paper industries, that the target was 2,30,000 tons, and we have licensed for 4 lakh tons for this commodity, because industrial expansion is taking place at fast speed in different directions requiring consumption of this very heavy chemical in this quantity.

IMPORT OF GEMS

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