

inster ' of taking the money in a lumpsum, takes it in instalments.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You must ask the firms.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: What, is the answer?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That will do, Mr. Mukerjee.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether the accuracy of these accounting machines has been satisfactorily tested?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Generally, the reports are that there are 19 varieties of machines in this country. Most of them are working satisfactorily. As a matter of fact, for the additional information of the hon. House, we have approved recently a scheme to manufacture some of these machines in India.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know the number of these machines which were imported into India?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Those figures are not being kept because there are several types of machines and being a very small item, they are not kept on separate trading account.

श्री नवल सिंह चौहान : यह खराब हो जाती हों क्या वता है ?
श्री मनुभाई शाह : तो स्पेयर हो जाती हैं ।

LOAN SANCTIONED TO SALEM-ERODE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEMES

*647. SHRIMATI YOSHODA REDDY: (ON BEHALF OF SHRI T. S. PATTABIRA-MAN): Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

ia) whether the Salem-Erode Electricity Distribution Company has

applied for a loan of Rs. 15,81,850 for implementing certain rural electrification schemes; and

(b) if so, whether the loan has been sanctioned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): (a) The Government of Madras have requested for the inclusion in the "programme of power expansion facilities for increasing employment opportunities" an additional item titled "Loan to Salem-Erode Electricity Distribution Co., Ltd.," for rural electrification schemes proposed to be executed by that Company. The amount of loan proposed for this Company was Rs. 10-16 lakhs.

(b) No, Sir.

SHRI D. A. MIRZA: Knowing the importance of these industrial centres, why have they failed to sanction the loan, Sir?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: I would like to inform the hon. Member that these schemes which were specifically meant for the First Five Year Plan period and were intended to provide immediate relief to the unemployed could not provide immediate relief to unemployment during the First Plan. Those schemes were not extended to the Second Five Year Plan period. We have however said that even in the Second Five Year Plan period, we would like this assistance to continue almost in the same form. But many administrative details have to be worked out. This scheme particularly refers to the category related to the First Five Year Plan period. So, it has not been favourably considered.

•SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know if this company is a private limited company or a public limited company?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: This is a private company, Sir.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NALDU: May I know if there is a scheme in the Madras Government to take over all these private electric supply distribution companies?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a different question.

DR. P. C. MITRA: What is the rate of interest and how long .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: When loan is not given, where is the question of interest?

SHRI D. A. MIRZA: How many rural areas will be benefited by this lift irrigation scheme, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. This is not lift irrigation.

Questions are over. r

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ACCUMULATION OF CLOTH STOCKS IN BOMBAY

8. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that accumulation of cloth stocks with the mills in the country, particularly in Bombay, has been mounting giving rise to apprehension of closure of marginal units;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) to what extent the present accumulation has exceeded the normal stocks holdings consistent with economy; and

(d) what are the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to restore normal conditions in the stockholdings of the mills?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) Yes. Sir. Some of the centres including Bombay have reported somewhat higher stocks than usual.

(b) For the time being wholesale and retail dealers are apparently not buying as much cloth as usual. The general tightness of the money market has partly contributed to the slackness in the cloth trade. The position is, however, expected to improve during the forthcoming festival seasons.

(c) The total stock with the textile industry at present is estimated at about 5.53 lakhs of bales made up of 3.31 lakhs of bales unsold and 2.22 lakhs of bales sold but not yet taken delivery of by the trade. Equated to the current rate of production this will mean that the industry carries just over seven weeks' production. It is not very abnormal for the industry to carry stocks of this magnitude.

(d) Individual cases of textile mills requiring finance for rehabilitation of plant and machinery etc. so as to bring down the cost of production and also improve the competitive selling capacity are considered for grant of financial assistance by way of loan from the National Industrial Development Corporation.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether this accumulation is not far in excess of the accumulation which obtained in 1953 when the Government came to take prompt action for the clearance of this?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: Sir, the production in 1953 was less than the production now and yet, the accumulation in October, 1953, was 4.29 lakhs of bales of unsold cloth and also in September, 1953, it was 3.88 lakh bales of unsold cloth. Therefore, it was much more than what it is now. The production was much less then.