

COUNCIL OF STATES

Wednesday, 28th May 1952

The Council met at a quarter past eight of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : On a point of information, Sir. My question was disallowed, but for my guidance for the future, may I know the grounds on which it has been disallowed ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Secretary will explain to you, if you see him.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**CLOSURE OF ORDNANCE FACTORIES AT KANPUR**

*4. BABU GOPINATH SINGH : With the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government Harness and Saddlery Factory, the Parachute Manufacturing Factory and the Bren Gun Factory at Kanpur are about to be closed shortly;

(b) if so, why;

(c) what is the strength of the labour force that will be displaced by this decision of Government;

(d) what steps are Government taking to rehabilitate and settle the workmen who may be thrown out of employment on account of the closing down of these factories ; and

(e) what do the Government propose to do with the machinery, equipment and buildings of these factories which were put up at a cost of more than ten crores of rupees for the purposes of national defence ?

THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI) : (a) No.

(b) to (c). Do not arise. ICC.S.D.

BABU GOPINATH SINGH : What are the recommendations of the Re-organisation Committee in this behalf ?

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : I do not know which Re-organisation Committee my hon. friend is referring to. Is he referring to the Departmental Committee ?

BABU GOPINATH SINGH : Yes. The employees of Kanpur have the information that there was a Reorganisation Committee and it recommended the liquidation of these factories.

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : We carry out periodically a general economic review of items of defence expenditure. That examination takes into account also the question of justification for maintaining the existing establishments including Ordnance and Clothing factories. This is a routine matter. No recommendation has yet been made regarding the liquidation of these factories.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Is there any proposal before Government that these factories should be liquidated some time in the future ?

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : Routine examination is going on but no definite recommendation has yet been made.

SHRI P. SUNDARAYYA : Is it a fact that the Kanpur industrialists want these Government factories to close or be handed over to them ?

SHRI N. GOPALASWAMI : I have no information.

KASHMIR'S FINANCIAL INTEGRATION WITH INDIA

*5. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY : Will the Minister for HOME AFFAIRS AND STATES be pleased to state :

(a) whether talks with the Finance Minister of Kashmir in the matter of