

CLOSED TEXTILE MILLS

369. **SHRI ARJUN ARORA :**
SHRI GULAM NABI UNTOO :
SHRI ABID ALI :

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile mills in the country which remained closed as on May 30, 1968 ;

(b) the number of workers rendered unemployed as a result thereof ;

(c) the number of spindles and looms rendered idle ;

(d) the daily loss of production of cloth and yarn ;

(e) the relief provided to workmen ; and

(f) the steps taken to secure the resumption of work in these mills ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) 55.

(b) About 60,913.

(c) Spindles—12.10 lakhs.
 Looms—12,476.

(d) Daily loss of production is estimated at 8.85 lakh metres of cloth and 1.92 lakh kg. of yarn.

(e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(f) Five mills have since reopened. Committees have been appointed to investigate into the affairs of those mills which were recommended for that purpose by the State Governments. Excepting the mills whose cases are pending in the High Courts in connection with liquidation etc., the question of resumption of work would be considered in consultation with the State Governments in the light of the recommendations of the Committees.

PAPER INDUSTRY

370. **SHRI M. M. DHARIA :** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made a study of the reasons due to which the Paper Industry has not been flourishing of late and reasons for closure of some of the paper mills ;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard ; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in negative, what are the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The prices of all the varieties of paper have been decontrolled.

(c) Does not arise.

EXTENSION AFTER 55 TO NON-TECHNICAL PERSONNEL

371. **SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA :** Will the Minister of **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Gazetted officers on the Indian Railways, as on 31st March, 1968 ; and

(b) whether extension is given to non-technical personnel after the age of 55 and if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) 6,969.

(b) Does not arise as the age of superannuation has been raised to 58 years from 1st December, 1963.

लखी सराय रेलवे स्टेशन पर दुर्घटनाएं

372. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आये दिन पूर्व रेलवे के लखी सराय स्टेशन पर दर्जनों व्यक्ति रेल दुर्घटना के शिकार होकर मरते हैं और मैकड़ों घायल होते हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां तो आये दिन इन दुर्घटनाओं के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) क्या आये दिन इन दुर्घटनाओं से बचने के लिये सरकार लखी सराय स्टेशन को गया की ओर की पश्चिमी लाइन को स्थानान्तरित करने का विचार रखती है ?