

(b) Principally country tallow, vegetable oils and vegetable tallow.

(c) 88814 Cwts. (April 1956 to January 1957).

Soap Production

*128. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the proportion of soap produced by organised sectors as compared to the small scale units working by themselves; and

(b) the help and encouragement given to small units engaged in the production of soap?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The present annual production of soap by the large units is 1,10,000 tons, while the production by smaller units is estimated to be 1,20,000 tons.

(b) The following assistance is being given to small units engaged in the production of soap:—

(1) The first 200 tons of soap of all kinds manufactured for home consumption on or after the first of April each financial year commencing from first April, 1956, have been exempted from the whole of excise duty leviable thereon.

(2) The All India Khadi and Village Industries Commission is giving financial assistance for soap making in rural areas.

Tea Industry

*134. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference on finance for tea industry was held recently in Calcutta on the initiative of the Government of India; and

(b) if so, the decisions arrived at the Conference?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There was a general discussion of issues and it was decided to set up a small working group to go into the matter, and formulate proposals for Government's consideration.

Slum Clearance in Bangalore

*135. **Shri Keshava:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bangalore Corporation have submitted any schemes for improvement and clearance of slums in the city of Bangalore through the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount offered as help by Central Government for the purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seventeen Slum Clearance/Improvement Schemes prepared by the Corporation of the City of Bangalore have so far been received in this Ministry through the Government of Mysore. A statement showing details thereof is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No. 34.]

(c) The total amount allocated to the Mysore Government as the Central Governments' share of financial assistance under the Slum Clearance/Improvement Schemes for the entire Second Five Year Plan period is tentatively fixed at Rs. 56 lakhs. Out of this amount, a sum of Rs. 8.25 lakhs has been provided for disbursement during the year 1957-58.

Small and Medium Scale Industries

*136. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the direction of settling details of a scheme for the establishment of a prototype training workshop for the training of technical staff required for small and medium scale industries for which