

reeling and spinning at the Government Silk Institute, Bhagalpur. During the Second Plan 195 persons were trained in this Institute. The State Government has purchased 55 improved tasar reeling machines and 33 tasar spinning machines for distribution among the trained persons on 50 per cent. subsidy basis. In addition, a regular training programme in spinning and reeling has been in operation in all the tasar production centres, seed stations and other departmental units in the State. During the Second Plan period over 8,000 persons are reported to have been trained under this programme. The State Government has also organised mobile tasar silk weaving tutorial classes in 5 important centres for imparting training in weaving.

The State Government proposes to set up more Training-cum-production Centres and Co-operative Societies in the districts of Singhbhum, Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Dhanbad, Palamau and Santhal Parganas during the remaining period of the Third Plan, so as to use cocoons locally in all its manufacturing processes, including weaving of cloth.

National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.

2256. { Shri Kashi Ram Gupta;
Shri Rameshwar Tantia;
Shri R. Barua:

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

(a) the different kinds of machineries that are supplied to small-scale industries through the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd.;

(b) whether it is a fact that as late as 1st August, 1961 the ceiling was raised to Rs. 5,25,000 for giving printing machinery on hire-purchase by the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. on a representation by the All India Federation of Master Printers;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the National Small Industries Corporation

has, immediately thereafter, banned the supply of printing machinery on hire-purchase basis; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) The Corporation supplies industry machinery and machine tools required mainly for the manufacture of consumer goods and spare parts.

(b) With effect from the 30th May, 1961, the ceiling for supply of printing machinery was raised from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 52,500 (and not Rs. 5,25,000) in view of the additional incidence of customs duty on imported machinery.

(c) The ban was imposed only in January, 1962.

(d) The ban was considered necessary in view of the fact that there has been very rapid expansion in the printing industry in the small scale sector and the existing capacity was considered adequate.

Companies Act

2257. { Shri Himmatsinhji;
Shrimati Gayatri Devi;
Shri P. C. Borooah:

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

(a) whether Government are contemplating any change in the Companies Act; and

(b) if so, on what lines?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Not at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Acetate Flake Production Project in Mysore

2258. Shrimati Sarojini Mahishi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any application has been received for setting up a project in