

Progress made in setting up joint sector Scooter Factory at Lucknow

7579. DR. H. P. SHARMA:
SHRI VARKEY GEORGE:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 420 on the 22nd February, 1973 regarding Scooter Plant in Lucknow in Public Sector and state the time by which it is likely to enter production and attain optimum capacity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): The production in the Joint Sector Plant at Lucknow is expected to commence by August, 1974 and the optimum capacity of 1,00,000 Nos. is expected to be attained by 1977.

Social Security Benefits to workers of Beas Project, Talwara, Punjab

7580. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of workers employed on the Beas Project, Talwara, Punjab, are deprived of the statutory benefits of gratuity, bonus and provident funds;

(b) if so, the number of such workers; and

(c) whether any action has been taken to ensure that workers of a Central Project get their statutory benefits of social security?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) to (c). The information is being collected. It will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Strike in J. K. and other Jute Mills in Kanpur

7581. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a prolonged strike of workers of the J. K. and other Jute Mills of Kanpur has been going on since the 1st February, 1973;

(b) whether their main demand is for parity with West Bengal Jute Mill workers in respect of minimum wages, Dearness Allowance and piece rates;

(c) whether the Uttar Pradesh State authorities have failed to resolve the dispute and settle the strike; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Centre to help the workers to achieve industry-wise uniformity and standardisation wages?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) The strike in the J. K. Jute Mills, Kanpur has been going on since 29th January, 1973.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). The U.P. Government, which is the 'appropriate Government' in respect of this dispute, is fully seized of the matter.

Proposal move to raise Panama Canal Issue in U.N. General Assembly

7582. SHRI BHAGIRATH BHANWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen Press reports that Panama again propose to bring the canal issue before the U.N. General Assembly after the U.S.A., used its veto on a resolution before the U.N. Security Council over the Panama Canal Zone; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?