

Communique dated 19th August, 1959, which sets out the decisions of the Conference of the Chief Secretaries of East Pakistan, West Bengal, Assam and Chief Commissioner, Tripura, on August, 17 and 18, 1959 is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix IV, annexure No 42]

Photographic Goods

*1281. { Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a roll of film in Delhi is sold at Rs 5 50 nP and a flash bulb at Rs 1 50 nP instead of 50 nP, and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to relieve the hardship of photographers?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b) Owing to complaints regarding the shortage of these materials in the market, the import policy had been liberalised from time to time. In addition to the imports by the Established Importers, State Trading Corporation are importing these materials on rupee accounts. It is true that market prices for some items of photographic goods are reported high though no exact or firm figures of prices are available as they fluctuate from time to time.

Katihar Jute Mill

*1282. { Shri Bholanath Biswas:
Shri P. G. Sen:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 552 on the 23rd February, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the Katihar Jute Mill which was closed has begun functioning;

(b) if not, when it is going to be restarted; and

(c) the steps taken towards that direction?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The management of mill are hoping to restart the mill from the 1st January, 1960

(c) The management have been advised to reconstruct the capital structure of the mill and to undertake renovation of its machinery to bring it into working condition.

Closure of Krishna and Edwards Textile Mills, Rajasthan

*1283. Shri S. M. Banerjee Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of Krishna and Edwards Textile Mills in Rajasthan have threatened to close down the Mills,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c) As the Edward Mills were unable to run in a satisfactory way due to several factors, at the instance of the Government of Rajasthan, the Government of India have set up on 4th September, 1959, an Investigation Committee under Section 15 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, to inquire into the affairs of Edward Mills, Beawar

Regarding Krishna Mills, the State Government is expecting a satisfactory proposal of modernisation from the Mills so as to enable the Mills to work in an economic and efficient manner. Proposal will be considered when received.

Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons in West Bengal

*1284 Shri C. K. Bhattacharya: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the solution of the residuary problems pertaining to camp and non-camp refugees of West Bengal;