

Sulphur Deal with M/s Oval Industries

6059. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was decided in early 1967 that M/s. Oval Industries should pay a sum of Rs. 75,000/- as damages plus Rs. 6,614.56 as actual expenses to the State Trading Corporation in connection with the sulphur deal; and

(b) if so, how much amount has already been paid to the State Trading Corporation and the steps taken by Government to realise the rest from the said Company?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No, Sir. The negotiated settlement between S.T.C. and Oval Industries was to the effect that the latter would pay to S.T.C. the full amount of infructuous expenditure incurred by S.T.C. or a sum of Rs. 75,000 whichever was more. As the infructuous expenditure amounted to Rs. 6,614.56 only Oval Industries were liable to pay Rs. 75,000/-.

(b) The full amount of Rs. 75,000/- has since been remitted to S.T.C.

Conference on Handloom Industry at Bangalore

6060. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN:
SHRI P. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a conference on Handloom Industry was held recently at Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the proposals made at the Conference to save the industry from the crisis?

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

and (b). At the Conference on February 17, 1968 attended by the Deputy Prime Minister and the Chief Ministers/Ministers of the Southern States, the main proposals discussed were:—

- (1) Rebate scheme on handloom fabrics;
- (2) Excise duty on yarn;
- (3) Sales tax on handloom cloth;
- (4) Simplification of Reserve Bank's procedures for credit facilities;
- (5) General condition of the industry and impact of power-looms; and
- (6) Assistance for establishing more cooperative spinning mills.

Booking Office at Namkhana (Eastern Rly.)

6061. SHRI BHAGABAN DAS:
SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL:
SHRI GANESH GHOSH:
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a temporary Railway Booking Office is opened every year at Namkhana (Eastern Rly.) near Sagar Island for the facility of pilgrims to Sagar Mela;

(b) if so, whether such Booking Office was opened this year also; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a). A temporary Booking Office was opened at Namkhana during the years 1965, 1966 and 1967 for the facility of pilgrims to Sagar Mela.

(b) No.

(c) Due to poor patronage of the Booking Office.