

SUPPLY OF DEFENCE MATERIAL BY MANUFACTURERS

828. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the indigenous manufacturers who are able to supply defence materials only up to 25% of the orders given by Defence stores; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for their poor performance in production and what are the steps taken by Government to improve its position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) There are a number of agencies like Director General of Supplies and Disposals, Department of Defence Supplies, Services Headquarters, Store Depots etc. who are procuring material for the Defence Services. Compilation of information from all the sources in respect of all the orders would be time consuming and arduous task and may not be commensurate with the likely advantage. As far as the Department of Defence Supplies is concerned, the values of orders placed and supplies received, year-wise, since the inception of the Department in late 1965 is given in the statement attached.

(b) Looking to the difficulties to be overcome and the novelty of the work, the performance of indigenous manufacturers who are trying to establish such production for the first time, cannot be called poor. The Department of Defence Supplies is mainly handling those items which have to be developed for the first time in the country and then productionised. These have to conform to rigid Defence specifications and in most of the cases even the samples of the items are not available. After the entrepreneur develops the item, the prototype has to be evaluated and approved and thereafter the pre-production models are to be evaluated again not only in the laboratories but also in the field areas and after satisfactory performance, clearance is given for bulk production. During the bulk production stage also, a number of difficulties arise like non availability of certain essential raw materials components and machinery, which have to be sometimes allowed to be imported.

5—167 RSS/73

Although the Department of Defence Supplies is geared up to handle such situation and give active assistance, the whole process between placement of orders and materialisation of supplies is necessarily long. The figures in the statement however indicate a progressive increase in supplies.

STATEMENT

Year	Value of orders placed (Rs. crores)	Value of supplies received (Rs. crores)
1965-66	0.55	..
1966-67	10.36	0.86
1967-68	6.67	0.73
1968-69	14.35	0.96
1969-70	8.22	3.59
1970-71	30.92	4.42
1971-72	40.30	10.56
1972-73	31.61	18.07
TOTAL	142.96	39.19

WORKERS ACTUAL PARTICIPATION

829. [SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN: the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of 'workers' actual participation at all levels in public undertakings is likely to be introduced this year; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKATSWAMY): (a) Government have decided to introduce a scheme for the appointment of workers' representatives on the Board of Management of a few public sector undertakings on a trial basis. In the first instance, a worker-Director has been appointed in the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Pimpri.

(b) The scheme provides that for selection of a worker-Director, the person should have attained the age of 25 years and should have a minimum of five years service in the undertaking and should not attain the age of superannuation during the terms of appointment as Director.