

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOU-DHURY. I cannot answer that This is a general question which does not arise.

PLANTS FOR CONSUMER GOODS

*391. DR. SALIG RAM: †

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA:

SHRI KALYAN ROY.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA:

SHRI KRISHAN KANT:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to set up plants in the Public Sector to produce fast selling consumer goods like synthetic fibre, woollen goods, domestic utensils, electrical gadgets, refrigerators and lamps; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ औद्योगिक विकास मंत्रालय से राज्य मंत्री

(SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA): (a) Government have decided in principle that the role of public sector should be expanded and extended to new fields, including those consumer industries in which major production gaps are likely to develop in coming years. With this end in view, some proposals for the manufacture of consumer goods in the public sector are under consideration and feasibility reports for some of these items have been prepared. These reports are under various stages of consideration. A final selection of the consumer industries to be taken up in public sector has not been completed so far.

(b) Does not arise.

डा० शालिग्राम : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतलायेंगे कि जब कज्यूमर्स चीजों के दान बढ़ रहे हैं देश में और जनसंख्या भी इसके साथ-साथ बढ़ती चली जा रही है तो आप क्या इस तरह

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Salig Ram.

कज्यूमर्स प्लान्ट लगाने का विचार करने है ? क्या कारण है कि अब तक इस तरह के प्लान्ट नहीं लगाये गये ?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA. As I said, certain items have been taken up and feasibility reports are being prepared, and as soon as they are ready, we will try to go into them.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT May I know from the honourable Minister how long the Ministry will take to decide upon the items? Have they given any priority? Why is there so much delay? Is it because of some pressure from the monopolists that they do not want to go into it? Is that the reason why there is delay?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA. There is no question of being pressurised from any quarters. We do not deviate from our policy. We go according to a well-laid down policy. As a matter of fact, we have already entered into the field of a consumer goods. The honourable Member will remember that we are producing, for example, bread, modern bread, at so many centres, we are producing salt, we are producing drugs, we are producing watches. We have already entered into consumer goods.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT: Before the Question Hour is over you must reply by what time the report will be ready.

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA: These reports are being studied, feasibility reports are being prepared . . .

SHRI KRISHAN KANT How long will it take?

SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA. I cannot say, as early as possible, and consistent with our resource. That should also be taken note of.

MR CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.