

POWERS TO TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT
FOR INDUSTRIAL LICENCES

*464. SHRI S. A. KHAJA MOHIDEEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu have urged the Centre for some new powers in regard to Industrial licences; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) No formal communication has been received by the Government of India from the Tamil Nadu Government in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

CAR AND TRACTOR MANUFACTURE

*465. SHRI PHOOL SINGH:
SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI:
SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to manufacture 50,000 cars in the public sector;

(b) if so, the reasons for giving priority to the manufacture of cars over tractors; and

(c) what are the reasons for importing only 25,000 tractors whereas the demand of tractors is likely to be to the tune of a few lakhs?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have also under consideration a proposal to take up the manufacture of small tractors in the Public Sector. As such, the question of giving priority to cars over tractors does not arise.

(c) In July-August, 1969, when the question of import of build-up tractors was considered, the Department of Agriculture had estimated the demand for tractors during 1969-70 as 83,000 Nos. Against this, the availability of indigenous tractors was estimated as 20,000 Nos. and of physical arrivals during 1969-70 of imported tractors cleared during 1968-69 as 8,000 Nos. Against the gap of 55,000 Nos., it was decided to allow import of 35,000 tractors during 1969-70. The decision to restrict imports to 35,000 Nos. only has been taken, in view of the constraint on the country's foreign exchange resources and the desirability of affording further scope to the indigenous industry to increase its production.

POSTPONEMENT OF BYE-ELECTIONS TO
LOK SABHA AND STATE ASSEMBLIES

*466. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Election Commissioner has postponed all bye-elections to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the postponement has been done under the directions of Government after the recent split in the Congress party?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI P. GOVINDA MENON): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As the question of postponement arises only in relation to an election which has been formally called and notified, there has been no postponement of any election as such. Six elections, which have been formally called and notified, have either been completed or are in progress. But the Commission has, in view of the current revision of electoral rolls, decided not to hold a few bye-elections during the progress of such revision.

(c) No, Sir.

MATUNGA RAILWAY WORKSHOP

*467. SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been instances of excess consumption of liquor by the