

the reply given to Starred Question No. 5 answered in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 1968.

(b) In part I of the detailed project report received from the Czechs in May, 1967, the total investment on the proposed project was indicated as Rs. 23.48 crores. In the revised report, the Czechs have excluded from the scope of the project the forge shop, cold press shop and gear shop with consequential reduction in buildings, power equipment, heat treatment and other costs. They have also taken into account the availability of a number of components from indigenous ancillary industries as well as spare capacity in some existing units and have brought down the investment cost in the revised report to Rs. 10.64 crores.

(c) It has not been possible to take a decision on the report so far as the various assumptions made in the report in regard to the capital cost of the project and the expected selling price of the tractor have to be verified carefully. In the meantime Govt. have received a proposal from the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd. (Pinjore Unit) and the M.A.M.C., Durgapur for utilising the spare capacity available with them by jointly taking up the manufacture of a 20 H.P. tractor. They have asked the N.I.D.C. to prepare a detailed project report for this purpose, which would include a comparative feasibility study of a project for the manufacture of the Czech tractor as well as the tractor designed and being developed by the M.A.M.C. in collaboration with the C.M.E.R.I., Durgapur. This proposal is now being examined.

IMPORT OF RUBBER

16. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to allow import of rubber into the country ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Since the indigenous production of natural rubber and synthetic rubber is not adequate to meet the full requirements of the rubber goods manufacturing industry, Government have allowed imports to meet the deficit.

COMMITTEES FOR COMMODITIES UNDER MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

17. SHRI KRISHAN KANT :

SHRI R. P. SINHA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of committees, study groups and commissions appointed by the Ministry for various commodities under its control up to 30th September, 1968 ; and

(b) the expenditure incurred on each one of them during the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b) The information is given in the statement hereunder :—

Committee	Expenditure incurred
1. Committee on Raw Cashew nuts	1965-66—Nil 1966-67—Nil 1967-68—Rs. 2456 (incurred by the Cashew Export Promotion Council).
2. Committee for Registration of Export Contracts of Jute goods.	Nil
3. Jute Textiles Consultative Board (term expired on 21-8-68).	1966—Nil 1967—Rs. 4620 1968—Nil

Committee	Expenditure incurred
4. Jute Goods Export Promotion Advisory Committee (term expired on 21-8-68)	1966—Nil 1967—Rs. 4620 1968—Nil
5. Mineral Ores Export Advisory Council	1966-67—Nil 1967-68—Nil
6. Iron Ore Export Project Committee	1966-67—Rs. 90477 1967-68—Rs. 89934
7. Committee for review of the tea industry (Borooah Committee).	Rs. 19360
8. Cotton Textile Advisory Committee	1966—Rs. 3644 1967—Nil 1968—Nil
9. Cotton Textile Consultative Board	1966—Nil 1967—Nil 1968—Nil
10. All India Handloom Board	1966—Rs. 5703 1967—Rs. 2319 1968—Rs. 2006
11. Cotton Advisory Board	1966—Rs. 906 1967—Rs. 946 1968—Rs. 623
12. Central Consumers Vigilance Committee (Cotton textiles).	Not available
13. Panel of Technologists (Cotton textiles)	Not available
14. Powerloom Enquiry Committee	1966—Nil 1967—Nil 1968—Nil
15. Panel for Development of Woollen Handloom Industry.	1966—Nil 1967—Rs. 427 1968—Rs. 394
16. Development Council for Man-made Textiles.	1966—Rs. 21305 1967—Rs. 11375 1968—Rs. 9390
17. Venkataraman Committee on Export possibilities of specialised handloom fabrics.	Not available.
18. Tasar Silk Committee	Rs. 5542
19. Committee on Small Holdings of rubber	Expenditure borne by the Rubber Board, Information not readily available.
20. Banana Fruit and Development Committee.	Nil
21. Asoka Mehta Committee on Khadi and Village Industries.	1966-67—Rs. 42647 1967-68—Rs. 111349
22. Committee to review the activities of the All India Handicrafts Board, All India Handloom Board, Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation, Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, Central Cottage Industries Emporium and Handicrafts Emporium, Madras.	Rs. 2500 sanctioned.

Committee	Expenditure incurred
23. Ad hoc Study Group for Tea Industry	Not available
24. Committee on sugar exports	Not available
25. Khadi and Village Industries Commission	Not available

NOTE :—The travelling and daily allowance of official members of the Committees are usually paid by their respective Offices/Departments.

ENQUIRY INTO AFFAIRS OF BIC

18. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA :
DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI
TALWAR :
SARDAR RAM SINGH :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a former judge of the Assam High Court has been appointed to conduct an enquiry into the affairs of British India Corporation, Kanpur ;

(b) if reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative what are the terms of reference ; and

(c) by what time the enquiry is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) Shri Ram Lubhaya Obhrai, Retired Judge, High Court of Assam, was appointed to conduct an enquiry into the affairs of British India Corporation, Kanpur. However, Shri Obhrai died before the enquiry could be completed. Shri Sarjoo Prasad Singh, Retired Judge, Patna High Court, has since been appointed on 28-10-1968.

(b) As it was considered that the industrial undertaking known as Messrs British India Corporation Limited, Kanpur, consisting of three units, (i) Cawnpore Wollen Mills, Kapur, (ii) New Egerton Wollen Mills, Dhariwal and (iii) the North West Tannery and Shoe Factory (Cooper Allen) was being managed in a manner highly detrimental to the woollen textile and leather and leather goods industries and to public interest, the Central Government have appointed Shri Sarjoo Prasad Singh, Retired Judge, Patna High Court, for making a full and complete

investigation into the circumstances of the case in relation to the undertaking.

(c) It is expected that the investigation may take about three months to be completed.

USE OF ENERGY BY THE RAILWAYS

19. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the system-wise percentages of rail traction using electricity, diesel and steam in the country ;

(b) the programme in regard to use of energy for the railways in future on short-term and long-term basis ;

(c) the outlays involved in the implementation of the programme ; and

(d) whether Government have consulted the Ministries of Steel, Mines and Metals, Irrigation and Power, Petroleum and Chemicals and the Planning Commission in regard to the availability of different kinds of energy and incidence of railway requirements on foreign exchange resources ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) In the case of freight traffic, the percentages in 1967-68 were 41.41 by steam, 40.16 by diesel and 18.43 by electric traction. In the case of passengers traffic, exact percentages are not available but in terms of train kilometres, the percentages were 82.90, 3.90 and 13.20 respectively.

(b) and (c) Since it was recognised that steam traction will not be able to cope with the additional traffic generated by planned industrialisation, the policy of the Railways has been to introduce more diesel and electric trains. No precise programme to be carried out year by year has been laid down as extension of dieselisation/electrification