

UNSOLD STOCKS WITH HMT

♦546. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to starred Question No. 243 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th November 1967 and state the steps that are being taken to sell large stocks of unsold machine tools which have accumulated with the Hindustan Machine Tool plant at Bangalore ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHANU PRAKASH SINGH) : The Company are diversifying production. They have also modified and tooled-up machines to the specific requirements of customers. They are offering rediscounting facilities through the Industrial Development Bank of India to the buyers of machine tools. They have intensified efforts for increasing the sales in the country and abroad.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN : The question is : What steps are being taken to sell the large stocks of unsold machine tools ? He has told me what steps he has taken to utilise the capacity, the installed capacity, saying that diversification measures have been taken. Now, I would like to know what steps they have taken to dispose of the accumulated machine tools which we have already produced. And then about diversification, what are the new machines or things which they are going to manufacture in their factory now according to the diversification plan ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I think the Minister should answer the question. The question is very clear : What steps have been taken to sell the large stocks of unsold machine tools. That must be answered.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : So far as the question of disposing of the unsold stocks is concerned, we have taken steps inside and outside the country. We have opened up sales centres in Australia and we are also thinking of opening sales centres in other parts outside India. And here also, credit facilities are being given to the purchaser of these machine tools. These will help us in disposing of the large stocks.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Will the Minister please inform us why the HMT machines are unsaleable? As has been amply

stated by the representative of the Government, the Deputy Minister of Industrial Development, at Madras, the HMT machines are very costly and that is why they are not selling. Is it a fact that they are very costly and that is why they are not selling ? And another question is whether there is any intrinsic defect in the manufacture of these machines because the various machines manufactured at the factory of HMT, like milling machines, have been returned by the customer. Is it also a fact ? And what are the reasons for it ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : It is not a fact that because the machines are very expensive they are not being sold. As the hon. Member will realise ...

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : It is a statement of the hon. Deputy Minister made at Madras on September 12.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : ... from the facts which we have before, us these machine tools were selling and H.M.T. was earning a huge profit and was also declaring a dividend. Even during the last two years it has given a profit though it has not been able to give any dividend. The demand for these machines is less because of recession in the industries throughout.

And so far as the modifications are concerned, we are taking steps from time to time and are trying to meet the requirements of the consumer by bringing in modifications.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Madam, I am not clear. If the Minister of Industrial Development has stated that the machines are not costly as stated by the Deputy Minister, what is his reaction to it ? I want to know.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : That is between them.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Does the hon. Minister of Industrial Development hear me ? Please tell us whether the statement is correct or not. I want a reply from the Minister.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I have already stated the facts that these machines manufactured by H.M.T. have been purchased in the past and the HMT has been making a profit. This shows that the machines are acceptable. Because they are of a better quality and

are more sophisticated they are more costly. Even then they are preferred, though some of the machines which are of an inferior quality are selling at a low price.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : I am quite clear. 'The machines are costlier' that is the statement of the Deputy Minister of Industrial Development. But the hon. Minister has not replied to that question. The Deputy Minister said that they are costly and asked how they will sell.

(No reply)

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN : He said that diversification plants are going on. What are the new products that they are going to manufacture ? Some time back some small car project came at the HAL. They would not agree to produce it, with the result that the HAL does not produce either plane or car.

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : They have plans to manufacture new and sophisticated machines tools such as single and multi-spindle bar and chucking automats, copying lathes, horizontal boring machines, multi-tool lathes and surface grinders

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You need not give the whole list. Next question.

*547- [The questioner (Shri M. V. Bhadram) was absent. For answer, vide ->7 cols, infra. 1

फ़िल्मों से अर्जित विदेशी मुद्रा

*369. श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी

चौरङ्गिया : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1966-67 में भारतीय फिल्मों का विदेशों में निर्यात करने से कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित हुई ;

(ख) विदेशी फिल्मों का भारत में आयात करने से कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा खर्च हुई ;

(ग) उपरोक्त भाग (क) में उल्लिखित फिल्मों का कन किन देशों में निर्यात किया गया ; और

(घ) उपरोक्त भाग (ख) में उल्लिखित फिल्मों का कन किन देशों से आयात किया गया ?

FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNED THROUGH FILMS

*369. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned through export of Indian films to foreign countries during 1966-67;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange spent as a result of the import of foreign film in India;

(c) the names of the countries to whom the films referred to in part (a) above were exported; and

(d) the names of the countries from whom the films referred to in part (b) above were imported ?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Value of exports of Indian ' films during 1966-67 stood at Rs. 1.36 crores;

(b) Value of imports of foreign films during 1966-67 stood at Rs. 0.71 crores;

(c) a statement of countries to which Indian films were exported is enclosed (Annexure I).

(d) a statement of countries from whom films were imported in India is enclosed (Annexure II).

ANNEXURE I

Names of countries to which Indian cinematographic films (exported) were exported during 1966-67

1. Aden
2. Afghanistan
3. Algeria
4. Argentina
5. Australia
6. Belgium
7. Brazil
8. Bulgaria
9. Burma
10. Cambodia
11. Canada
12. Chile

■f[] English translation.

^Transferred from the 6th December, 1967.