

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH : The question is regarding furnishing and refurnishing the rooms of Railway Board Officers and not all these things.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : But he wants you to take note of other things also.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Mr. Kumaran asked a very pertinent question. This question relates to the officers in the Railway Board. They could not get the information up till now. They are not to collect information from all over the country. This is how the Railway Board is functioning. They are manipulating the seniority list and juniority list of Assistants, L.D.Cs, etc. They have got a new tele-communication system. May I know much has been spent on the tele-communication service which has been installed, when economy measures are being taken by the Railway Board ?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA : The question, I believe, requires about 32 annexures to be prepared. It relates to the expenditure incurred on furnishing the rooms of the Chairman, Members, Additional Members, Directors and officials of similar status from 1961 onwards. Now, there are so many furnishing and refurnishing items. We have to compile and collect the information and it does take time. No doubt it relates to the Railway Board, but the question, as tabled, requires a series of information which will have to be compiled. We are now trying to compile and place it on the Table of the House.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No more. Next question.

SALE OF NEW SOOTERS, WITHOUT SPARE TYRES

*541. **DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that new scooters without spare tyres are sold to the customers by the scooter manufacturers; and

(b) if so, what is the action taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHANU PRAKASH SINGH) :

(a) Due to short supply of tyres, the manufacturers of scooters have, as a temporary measure been marketing their scooters without spare tyres.

(b) Discussions have been held with the tyre manufacturers and steps agreed upon in order to improve tyre supplies to the scooters manufacturers for original equipment. As a result, it is expected that the supply position will improve soon. Further, if the shortage continues, it has been decided to permit imports to the extent of the requirements of scooter manufacturers for one month's production initially so that the production of scooters is not adversely affected.

DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR : I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the total production of scooters in the country and the production of scooter tyres. If there is a vast difference in the production of the two, what steps are being taken to increase the production of scooter tyres ? Another question is, what is the total production of scooter tyres with different manufacturers and when the spare tyres are not being provided to the customers, are the manufacturers giving any reduction in the price of scooters and, if so, what is the price reduction ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Only the other day, in reply to a calling attention notice, I gave all these details and I would only refer the hon. Member to them.

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

*542. **SHRI R. P. KHAITAN :** †

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI :

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

(a) the rate of industrial growth in the first two quarters of the current year and how it compares with the corresponding figures in the previous two years ;

(b) whether the declining trend in the industrial growth during the year 1966 is still continuing ; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the industrial growth ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHANU PRAKASH SINGH) :
(a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri R. P. Khaitan.

STATEMENT

(a) The rate of Industrial Production as measured by the index of Industrial Production compiled by Central Statistical Organisation is as follows :

Index of Industrial Production (1956-100)

Year	I Quar- ter	II Quar- ter	Rate of Growth over the corresponding period of the prece- ding year	
			I Quar- ter	II Quar- ter
1967	194.7	190.0	4.0 %	1.7 %
1966	187.3	186.9	0.5 %	2.8 %
1965	186.4	181.8	7.6 %	10.3 %
1964	173.2	164.8

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Some of the steps taken to improve production are as follows :

- (i) De-licensing of a number of industries from the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act.
- (ii) Assistance in diversification of the lines of manufacture.
- (iii) Liberalisation of raw material imports.
- (iv) A high power steering Committee has been constituted to consider the various bottlenecks and to suggest remedial measures and draw up a programme of action.
- (v) Necessary steps have been taken by the Reserve Bank of India to stimulate the flow of credit.
- (vi) It has been decided to place orders for 16000 numbers of Railways Wagons for delivery in the next fiscal year.

श्री आर० पी० खेतान : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो हाई पावर इस्टेयरिंग कमेटी बनाई गई है, उसमें किन-किन लोगों को लिया गया है? इसके साथ ही मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने क्या क्या सुझाव दिये हैं जिससे कि प्रोडक्शन बड़े और उसके लिये उन्होंने क्या ऐक्शन लिया है?

श्री फ़ख़रुद्दीन अली अहमद : इकौनौमिक मिनिस्ट्री के जो सेक्रेटरीज हैं, वे इसके मेम्बर हैं। इन्डस्ट्रीज के बारे में जो भी सजेशन आते हैं वे उस पर गौर करते हैं और उसके मुताबिक काम करते हैं।

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH : Is it a fact that one of the factors leading to the declining trend in the industrial growth in India is the classification of the priority industries as 59 and 41 per cent of industries of India are uncared for? Now the talk of liberalised import licences for these 59 industries is going on in the country, while the 41 per cent of the industries, uncared for and not classified as priority industries have been clamouring for more of import licences. Is it a fact that this is one of the causes of the declining trend of industrial growth in India?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I do not agree with what the hon. Member has said, because the question of putting the industries in priority list or otherwise is being considered from time to time, when such industries which are considered important are put into priority list; and action is taken to help those industries on a priority basis as much as it is possible for Government to do.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : There is no doubt that because of shortage of raw materials some of the industries are suffering. But may I know from the Minister whether new installed capacities have been created in this country during the Third and Second Plans though the earlier installed capacities were not utilised fully? If so, can the Minister tell us which are the industries which are suffering because of this?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Madam, here also I would like to make the position clear. So far as the industries requiring an investment of Rs. 25 lakhs and less are concerned, they need not take any licence. Only the question of licence comes in in respect of industries which have an investment of over Rs. 25 lakhs, and then on the basis of what has been decided by the Planning Commission having regard to our demand, the capacity, the production, etc., they are given licence and they are given all facilities. It may be that certain industries which do not require licence have been established and there is over-production and the production is much more than the demand in the country.

श्री रामकुमार भुवालका : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस कमेटी में कितने मेम्बर हैं और उनके नाम क्या क्या हैं और वे कब तक अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश करेंगे ?

श्री फ़ख़रुद्दीन अली अहमद : अभी जैसा मैंने बतलाया कि इकौनौमिक मिनिस्ट्री के जो सेक्रेटरीज हैं, वे उसके मेम्बर हैं।

श्री आर० पी० खेतान : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने स्टेटमेंट में बतलाया है कि डाइवर्सिफिकेशन के लिए उनको कुछ मदद दी जायेगी तो क्या मदद दी जायेगी, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे ?

श्री फ़ख़रुद्दीन अली अहमद : डाइवर्सिफिकेशन के लिए 25 परसेंट तक मदद दी जायेगी, बैलेंस इक्युपमेंट इम्पोर्ट करने के वास्ते।

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : May I know from the hon. Minister whether this long-sided planning in respect of the machine-building industry has led to a situation in which we require Rs. 800 crores worth of spares and components and we have not the foreign exchange to meet it, so that our industrial growth is being hampered and made dependent upon the foreigners; whether as a result of foreign collaboration and foreign capital investment our wealth is being drained away so that there is also no market for the industrial goods also and recession is there; and whether it is due to this factor that the industrial growth has come to a grinding halt ?

SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I do not agree with the views held by the hon. Member that because of foreign collaboration, because of assistance from outside all this malady is there. The malady is there for several reasons which could not be anticipated when the Plan was prepared and action for implementing the scheme was taken.

INDIAN FIRMS' TENDER FOR STEEL SUPPLY TO NEW ZEALAND

*543. SHRI A. D. MANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Engineering firm in Calcutta submitted a tender for supply of fabricated steel structure for a bridge in New Zealand ;

(b) whether this tender was accepted by New Zealand; and

(c) whether the said firm has been asked not to undertake such work in future by its British Directors ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b) Messers Commercial and Industrial Exports Ltd., Calcutta (CIEL) has secured confirmed order from New Zealand Government Railways against tender bid for supply of two Railway Bridge spans. The Bridge spans are being manufactured by an Engineering firm in Calcutta.

(c) We have no information to this effect.

SHRI A. D. MANI : I have to mention here before I put a question that this concern is controlled by British Directors, and this concern was capable of getting the order from New Zealand but the Britishers asked this concern not to tender for such a project. May I ask who are the Controllers of this concern, who are the Directors ?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : Madam, the concern is a member of the Engineering Export Promotion Council. Regarding names of the members or Directors of this firm I require notice.

SHRI A. D. MANI : May I ask the Minister whether, since the matter has been raised he will try to find out whether the British Directors interfered with the Controllers' discretion to accept the orders from abroad so that British interests may not be affected ? Will he conduct an enquiry into this matter ?

SHRI DINESH SINGH : The hon. Member will appreciate that this is a private firm and it is not very easy for us to find out what happens in their working. We did try to ascertain from the Engineering Export Promotion Council whether any collaborator of this firm from abroad had asked them not to tender for this project. But the Export Promotion Council has informed that they have no such information.

DIFFICULTY IN INCREASING NUMBER OF TRAINS

*544. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the difficulty experienced by Government in increasing the number of trains