

ment's proposal to set up a power tiller factory in public sector; and

(b) if so, whether the factory has been set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) The Government of Punjab have submitted two alternative proposals for the manufacture of power tillers, one in collaboration with a Japanese firm and the other with the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur.

In the case of the scheme involving collaboration with Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, the Government of Punjab have been given time upto 30-9-66 for submitting a detailed scheme. In the meantime, their scheme involving Japanese collaboration is being examined.

SHRIMATI LALITHA (RAJAGOPALAN) : According to the statement, the Government of Punjab have been given time up to 30-9-66. The Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute is to submit a detailed scheme. The policy of the Government is to give incentives to internal producers, whether in the private sector or public sector. So, why should they consider at the same time having Japanese collaboration, when a time-limit has been given to our Engineering Institute up to 30-9-66 ?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA : These were two separate proposals. As a matter of fact, there have been many collaborations with Japan so far as power tillers are concerned. So far as the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute, Durgapur, is concerned, both the U.P. Government and the Punjab Government want to put up a composite scheme with hundred per cent indigenous content. They are making that attempt. Since the scheme is not ready the Punjab Government has asked for extension of time.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया : क्या श्रीमान यह बतलायेंगे कि यह पावर टिलर्स के निर्माण के कार्य के बारे में अभी जो विचार चल रहा है, वह कब तक पूरा हो जायगा ? दूसरी बात यह है कि क्या कृषि मंत्रालय से भी इस प्रकार के पावर टिलर्स के उपयोग के बारे में अच्छी तरह से जांच करवा ली जायेगी इसके निश्चित करने से पूर्व ?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA : All these power tillers, for which manufacturing licences have been given, have been tested in the test house and have been certified by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture also.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : Could I ask the hon. Minister what is the estimated requirement of power tillers in the country and what is the total installed capacity, which the Ministry proposes to set up by the end of next year?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA : So far as the target is concerned, no target was fixed for the Third Plan. Now, the estimated requirement roughly, by the end of the Fourth Plan, will be somewhere in the region of 60,000 or 75,000 and so far licences have been issued for the manufacture of 60,000 per annum.

OFFER OF C.S.I.R. TO MANUFACTURE T.V. SETS

*32. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Council of Scientific and Industrial Research objected to the issue of licence for import of Television sets;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Council of Scientific and Industrial Research had submitted a detailed scheme for manufacture of television sets in India and that foreign exchange for the scheme was not granted to them; and

(c) if replies to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on [he Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Following reports appearing in the Press to the effect that Government are going to import large number of TV Receivers from several countries, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research drew the attention of the Government as to whether in light of developments in the Pilani institute it was at all necessary to import large number of receivers particularly from the point of view of development of indigenous production capacity.

A scheme for production of 1000 IV receivers at the Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute, Pilani, has been sanctioned by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research who have also obtained the necessary foreign exchange for the import of certain essential components, which represents about 20 per cent of the total cost of production.

While these developments will take time, a few thousand receivers had to be imported to meet the current needs. As soon as local development takes shape, the imports will be curtailed and banned.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know from the hon. Minister when the Commerce Ministry first came to know that the Pilani Institute had succeeded in manufacturing indigenous TV sets ?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : About a year back.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : When did the CSIR first represent against the import of TV sets ?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : About two weeks back perhaps.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that the Pilani Institute offered to make the technical know-how for the manufacture of TV sets available to India industrialists for large-scale production.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : Well, Sir, this is a question which I have answered several times. Even now I am not quite sure whether the Pilani Institute has got all the machinery and the technical know-how in the sense of manufacturing all the components. What they have produced is a model of a particular circuit which is working satisfactorily, and for that 1,000 sets, as a project, have to be produced and shown to us, as to how far it is really good for the Indian consumers to purchase it because it has been produced in an institute which is doing fundamental research or applied research and about which we are proud.- We should be careful to see that the Indian consumer is not put in a position ultimately whereby he has to pay four times the price in the name of importing certain essential components required for the sets. All these factors will be examined. Therefore, as I have already said in my answer, in the initial stages, for the last four years we have had to import about 2,000 or 3,000 sets for the working of the television department in this country. As soon as the 1000 sets come from the Pilani Institute and my hon. colleague in the Ministry of Industry and we have examined them, a decision will be taken.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : There is a great scarcity of foreign exchange and many important items of production of national importance are being curtailed or being abandoned. In view of that, why is this particular branch of industry being given special treatment for the import of television sets, when we can replace them by our own production ? It may need a little less amount, but all the same we can replace them. Why should Government go out of its way to purchase a large number of sets from outside ?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : This, again, is a somewhat complex question. Whether television is required in this country or not, it is for the Government and this House to decide. Already four years before it was decided in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting that television, even though we could not afford it, was a desirable object

That is why we came up before this House which endorsed it several times. Now, the question is about the television equipment in this country and transmission and studio facilities have to be provided. So far, not many sets have been manufactured in an economic or scientific manner by any institution or by the private enterprise. Foreign exchange for components for manufacturing 1,000 sets has been released only a few months back, when that Department applied. After that the foreign exchange allotment was released. The money has been given. Now, let the sets come out. In the meantime, we are examining what collaboration we should have, whether Pilani can do the whole thing. The Government and the Cabinet will be appraised by the Ministries concerned and a suitable decision will be taken.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sometime last year or perhaps early last year, the Ministry of Industry invited applications for the manufacture of television sets. The Ministry of Industry has sat over these applications all this time and has not finalised them. Will the Minister take up this matter with the Minister of Industry and emphasize that expeditiousness is a good policy?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: I may say this on behalf of my colleague, and my former colleague, is here. This matter is under constant examination. There was the Chanda Committee appointed by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. This is a complex subject which we have to decide because our Pilani Institute research is a welcome piece of research. As long as there is technical know-how available in the country we need not go for foreign technical collaboration. Whether the Indian technical know-how is complete, whether it is up to the modern technological standards, all these points will have to be properly weighed and decided upon when all these applications received by the Ministry are examined.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: It is more than a year ...

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: One year is not much because we were waiting for L47RS/66—2

a Committee of Parliament. We cannot take a decision before knowing the Chanda Committee's recommendations.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sir, he is misleading. The Chanda Committee is only examining television as a policy.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The manufacturing policy is very much interconnected because if it is decided to go in for television in a big way, the decisions will be of one type. If it is decided that we cannot afford and we have only to carry on with a limited approach to Delhi and round about naturally the decision will be entirely different. Therefore, I would beg of the House to forbear with us. This being a new line, there is a lot of controversy about it. Whether television is a priority item or not, what amount of foreign exchange is required, what type of development should take place in the rural or city areas—all this combined view will be taken of the whole matter, and various other things like manufacturing sets, bringing up equipment to set up television stations, etc., will be taken up simultaneously.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: The implications of the two approaches of the hon. Minister are extremely dangerous. Number one, he says why should the Indian consumer be saddled with high cost. Whenever there is the question of conserving foreign exchange, India is saddled with high cost for example, we are subsidising the export of sugar. It is said, if the import is cheaper, the Indian consumers' interests will be taken into consideration and import should be allowed. Is that the policy of the Government that cheaper imports must be always permitted inside this country? Number two, the hon. Minister said that the technical know-how of the Pilani Institute in T.V. may not be of the same standard as the technical know-how in foreign countries. The technical know-how in every industrial field in India is even now inferior to the technical know-how in the U.S.S.R. or the U.S.A. or other developed countries. Could that be, a ground for a rule that we import the technical know-how and we do not develop our own technical know-how?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : We have never accepted it as a policy that because it is an Indian technical know-how it should automatically *suo motu* be sanctioned. We have to see in the larger context what the potentialities of that technical know-how are, what are the dimensions and economics of such a technical know-how. We certainly prefer our indigenous technical know-how. Secondly, whether imports have to be restricted in spite of the excessive local cost has also to be examined. Certainly we have got to see the cost of production. As we grow and move forward into development—because in the Indian economy in the past there has been too much overburdening of cost—whether the same thing should continue or not requires constant examination. What I can assure is this that all these different aspects are a part of our economic policy and they will be looked into from all angles. We are always promoting and encouraging indigenous research and technical know-how.

*33. [The questioner (Shri D. Thengari) was absent for answer, vide cob. 192-93 infra.]

ESTABLISHMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES IN PUNJAB

*34. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government of India to establish heavy industries in Punjab during the year 1966-67; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The doubling of the Hindustan Machine Tools Factory at Pinjore has been approved. This will involve an additional investment of about Rs. 24 millions, and will provide additional em-

ployment for approximately 1,500 persons. A letter of intent for the establishment of a Pig Iron Plant of 100,000 tonnes capacity per annum in the state of Punjab has been given in the name of the State Director of Industries. It is expected that these schemes will be implemented in 1966-67.

श्री जगत नारायण : उसके लिए बुनियाद अदा करता हूँ कि वे प्रामाणिक करते हैं कि 66-67 में लगाएँगे, मगर मैं उनसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि फस्ट फाइव इयर प्लान में, सेकंड फाइव इयर प्लान में और थर्ड फाइव इयर प्लान में पंजाब में कितनी हैवी इंडस्ट्रीज़ लगाई गई बमुकाबिले मैसूर, बंगाल और मद्रास के ?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA : The question relates to how many industries have been set up in the three Plan periods. That does not arise out of this question. That is a separate question.

MR. CHAIMAN : You would require notice for that.

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA : Yes, Sir.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH: What heavy industries are in the view of the Government of India to be established in Punjab ? Does it include any chemical industry?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA : As I have already submitted, taking the plan allocation into consideration and the State Government's recommendation, there are two schemes, one in the Central sector and one in the State sector for the next year. The Fourth Plan picture is not clear. This is only for 1966-67.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA : Has it been brought to the notice of the Government they will have plenty of small-scale into be formed, while in the Punjabi Suba they will have plenty of small-scale industries and no heavy industries, in the Hariana Prant they will have a few heavy industries though very few small industries. In the light of this situation, may I know where Government proposes to establish these heavy industries?