

SHRI G. M. MIR: What would be the interest which we are going to pay credit?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA: *No* interest is to be charged as such but the loan is to be repaid in 50 years' time.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL; The hon. Minister has mentioned that part of this credit will be used for the import of construction machinery. Is it proposed to import the construction machinery for Government projects or will the licences be given to private parties?

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: It is for both the purposes, Sir, Government as well as private.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: I would like to *know* if the importation of the materials mentioned by the hon. Minister to the extent of 90 million dollars would be sufficient for the Third, Fourth and Fifth Plans or is it sufficient only for the current year.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA; This is mainly for the current year and possibly it will spill over for the next year also.

SHRI MULKA GOVTNDA REDDY: Is this aid earmarked for the public sector?

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: No earmarking for the public sector as such. It is for both the sectors, public and private.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Sir, may I know whether the costs of the raw materials which are imported from the dollar area are usually 50 to 100 per cent more than of those imported from the soft currency area and, if so, will not the cost of manufactured goods go up considerably?

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: Sir, it may be said that it is somewhat more but that is something which we cannot altogether avoid. When we get help, I suppose this also has to be considered and then we must take advantage of it.

**FIRE IN HEAVY ENGINEERING CORPORATION,  
RANCHI**

\*93. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 136 in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th June, 1964 and state:

(a) whether police investigation\* regarding the fire in the Heavy Engineering Corporation at Ranchi have since been completed;

(b) whether any ex-High Court Judge has been deputed to conduct any further enquiries into the incident; and

(c) whether the persons who were working as the Managing Director and the Personnel Manager at the time of the fire are still continuing in their posts and if not, what are their present assignments?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY ENGINEERING IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY (SHRI T. N. SINGH): (a) It is understood that police investigation has been completed but no report from the State Government has been received by the Government of India.

(b) Yes, Sir; an enquiry was conducted.

(c) There was no Managing Director or Personnel Manager but the then Chairman and the Director (Personnel) are no longer continuing in the same posts. The Chairman has taken over as Adviser, Planning Commission and the Director has been transferred to Calcutta and is in charge of Movement and Claims.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know, Sir, whether the report of the Judge has been received and whether it is proposed to place it on the Table of the House?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: It has been received and it is being examined in our Secretariat. After due action is taken, Sir, we will make the summary

of the Report available, because publishing of such reports may not always be possible.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know what steps are being taken to get the police report from the Bihar Government?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: We have taken the necessary steps; we have written to the police authorities there that the report should be made available to us.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether the Chairman of the Corporation who was holding a post equivalent to a Joint Secretary's post has since been promoted to the post equivalent to that of an Additional Secretary?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I cannot say whether it is a promotion but, as far as I know, to the best of my knowledge, Sir, he is getting the same salary in the Planning Commission as before.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: The enquiry was conducted by an ex-High Court Judge and the report should not be only for departmental consumption. What is the difficulty in placing a copy of the report on the Table?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: We have no objection. We were thinking of having an examination of the report so that action is taken fully and then we can place the whole report.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: What is the Government going to examine in the matter, because the investigations have been made at the level of a High Court Judge? Now the Government have been given the findings. Why should we not, in that case, have the information about the findings while the Government can take whatever action they want?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I have no objection to making available the findings. Whatever is possible I can detail it now but I am afraid it may be a long statement.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: We want a copy of the report to be placed here.

SHRI A. D. MANI: The Minister stated that the police have completed their investigations. Have the police in Bihar reported that the offences should be registered against certain persons?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I cannot say exactly but, as far as I am able to understand, I do not think any case has been registered or is intended to be registered by the Bihar Government Police.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know if the investigation was conducted only by the Police Officers of the Bihar Government or were officers of the Government of India also associated and may I know the name of the ex-High Court Judge who conducted the enquiry?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I do not think we were interested in the police investigations. Primarily the police of that State did that job.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: Apart from the incidence of fire, may I know from the Minister what progress has been made in regard to the completion of the Heavy Industries Factory? Eight years have passed and it was assured in the Parliament in 1957 that this plant would be in a position to feed the Bokaro plant and that we would not be dependent on foreign imports but it has not yet gone into production itself.

SHRI T. N. SINGH: I do admit that the progress of the project is not as we would like it to be but I may assure the House that we are making at present not a very bad progress. It has been possible for the project authorities to supply even now some of the equipments required by our steel plants. For instance We have supplied and we are supplying big casting machines from that very factory. Similarly other things are also under way

and I can only say that it was never intended nor do we expect to provide everything we would require for the steel plant from this.

•94 [The questioner (Shri V. M. Chordia) was absent. For answer, vide col. 666—69 infra.]

•95. [Postponed to the 17th September, 1964.]

#### BLACK-MARKET IN BICYCLE TYRES AND TUBES

•96. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to his notice that bicycle tyres and tubes are being sold extensively in the black market in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to stop this black market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA): (a) There is no statutory control over prices of bicycle tyres and tubes. However, it has come to the notice of the Government that due to consumer preference for certain brands, the prices charged in the market were higher than the retail list prices recommended by the manufacturers.

(b) The tyre companies have been asked to ensure that their dealers do not charge prices higher than those recommended by them. The companies have started advertisement campaign advising public not to pay more than their recommended retail prices and issued warnings to dealers that their dealership would be cancelled if they indulge in malpractices.

श्री जगत नारायण : क्या वजीर साहब बतलायेंगे कि ब्लैक में टायर और ट्यूब किस कीमत पर बिक रहे हैं और उनकी असल कीमत क्या है ?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA: I do not know. They are being advertised, as a matter of fact. What is the black-

market price, we cannot say. When there was a complaint, what the Government did in August was that we had a conference of the cycle manufacturers in this country and they were asked not only to notify in the papers their retail prices but also to intimate the State Governments concerned and also to advise their dealers that their dealership licence will be cancelled if they sold at a price beyond that fixed and it is very difficult to know at which place exactly what tyres are sold at what price.

श्री जगत नारायण : गवर्नमेंट के पास इतनी बड़ी मशीनरी है, सी० प्राई० डी० है, तो यह जानना कौन सा मुश्किल काम है कि असल कीमत क्या है और ब्लैक की कीमत क्या है ? अगर गवर्नमेंट यह तसलीम करती है कि ब्लैक में टायर व ट्यूब बिक रहे हैं तो क्या गवर्नमेंट बतलायेगी कि उसने कितने केसेज इस तरह से ट्रेस किये हैं और कितनों को सजा दी है ?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA: I have already answered this. Different dealers might have different prices at different places. When the complaints were received, we had taken action and now we do not receive complaints because the prices are advertised and the State Governments have been informed.

SHRI BIREN ROY: Arising out of the answer of the Deputy Minister that different prices are ruling in different places, I would say that it is not a fact, because the prices are fixed by the companies. The Government should now be alert and ask the Police Officers to see that at these fixed prices the dealers do sell and if they do not, then they should be prosecuted. The public cannot wait till their dealership is cancelled nor the consumers can wait.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: That is a suggestion for action.