

**RAJYA SABHA**

Wednesday, the 22nd April, 1964/tfce 2nd  
Vaisakha, 1886 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR,  
CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

**MEMBER SWORN**

Shri P. C. Sethi (Madhya Pradesh).

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS****REGISTRATION OF DEALERS UNDER EXPORT  
PROMOTION SCHEME**

\*31. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister  
of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether dealers have been registered  
under the Export Promotion Scheme for  
buying/acquiring jewellery and other articles  
of gold which were manufactured before  
January 10, 1963; and

(b) if so, how many dealers have been  
registered?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, B. R.  
BHAGAT: (a) and (b) Dealers licensed under  
the Gold 01 Rules have been permitted to up  
to 30th June, 1964, their sales of ornaments  
and articles of manufactured prior to the  
January, 1963, provided the gold content  
thereof does not exceed 40 per cent of the total  
value of the ornament/article. In addition,  
such dealers as have been registered under  
the Export Promotion Scheme for gold  
jewellery and gold articles, have been  
permitted to buy similar ornaments/ articles  
from other licensed dealers as well as from  
individuals for export or for sale to  
foreign tourists. 60 dealers have been  
registered under the Export Promotion  
Scheme.

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SHRI A. D. MANI: I should like to ask the  
Minister the interpretation of the 40 per cent,  
of the total value of the item. Does it mean  
that the gold will be valued at the  
international price or will it be valued at the  
prices prevalent in the market?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It is the  
international market price f.o.b.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Under the rules is there  
anything to prevent a foreign tourist who  
purchases jewellery in India to sell it to  
Indians after the transaction is completed?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: For that  
precautions have been taken that it has to be  
intimated what purchases are made. The  
Customs authorities are simultaneously  
informed that the tourist is travelling by such  
and such plane; there is a stamp put on his  
passport that jewellery is sold to him under  
voucher number so and so and till he can  
produce a counter voucher to the satisfaction  
of the Customs authorities the jewellery  
cannot be allowed to be exported.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Has the Government  
assessed the total value of such jewellery  
available?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Under this scheme,  
it was expected some time back that Rs. 30  
crores worth of such jewellery was lying  
undisposed. As a result of this liberalisation  
and concession given, the amount of  
undisposed jewellery is only Rs. 50 lakhs.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I should like to ask the  
Minister whether there is any ascertainable  
demand for Indian jewellery in foreign  
countries and, if so, I should like to know the  
countries which want this jewellery.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: There is a  
tremendous demand for Indian jewellery  
outside, but, unfortunately, we have not been  
able to assess in what manner the procedure  
for exports should be simplified so as to meet  
the requirements of the Gold

Control Order—the 22 carat v. 14 carat complications—and<sup>to see</sup> that the transactions are genuinely done. When all these problems are properly studied and the procedure simplified, I have no doubt that we can earn a substantial foreign exchange.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: Have I rightly understood the hon. Minister as saying that for the sale of the jewellery some date in the month of June 1964 is specified? If that is so, was there any earlier date fixed for the disposal of this jewellery also?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The earlier date was in March 1964.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: In case the Government is convinced that it can earn<sup>1</sup> valuable foreign exchange, does the Government propose to encourage the manufacture of such jewellery which may have lesser gold content but more of other elements so that we can earn more<sup>anc\*</sup> more foreign exchange?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is already going through. But the demand in the foreign countries is for cut and polished diamonds and more for those which contain larger quantities of gold. How to see and test whether it is 22 carat gold or 14 carat gold before the jewellery is exported, these are all complicated things. Then there is our national policy with regard to gold control and all that. We cannot take steps which will undermine that policy. The moment we have a proper solution, Sir, I have no doubt that we can export a large quantity of it.

CHAIRMAN OF THE N.P.C.C. LTD.

•32 SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd. has been appointed; and

(b) what is the term of office of the Chairman and whether it is an honorary or a paid office?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) There is no fixed term of office for the Chairman. Appointment to this office can be made either in an honorary capacity or with a remuneration. The appointments so far made were all in an honorary capacity.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Is it not a fact that there has been a scramble among the I.C.S. officers to get this job and that one has already been tipped for it on a fat salary?

DR. K. L. RAO: Sir, I have got to say 'No' for this.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Now, as the hon. Minister has said that publicmen have functioned in an honorary capacity so well in the past, where is the necessity of having a paid Chairman, if at all there is a proposition like that?

DR. K. L. RAO: Sir, it all depends on the volume of work. At the moment, the volume of work is quite heavy. Under this Corporation the work is of the order of about Rs. 47 crores. So to manage such a big organisation you require a whole-time officer. We have been thinking of an officer who may probably have to be paid remuneration. Of course, nothing is settled as yet.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Is it a fact that Mr. L. N. Mishra was a whole-time officer?

DR. K. L. RAO: He was really not a whole-time officer in the sense that he was working in an honorary capacity. He was, of course drawing some allowances, daily allowance, etc. Otherwise he was working in an honorary capacity.