

(a) whether the report of the Boothalingam Mission which visited some East European countries has been received;

(b) whether the Mission has suggested the establishment of a second factory for prefabricated houses; and

(c) whether the recommendation has been accepted; if so, by what time the second factory is likely to go into production?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS,
HOUSING AND REHABILITATION
(SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA):

(a) Yes.

(b) The Mission has reported that there are possibilities of importing from the U.S.S.R. or Czechoslovakia a plant to produce the components of prefabricated houses.

(c) On the basis of the Mission's report, it is proposed to send shortly a team of officers to the U.S.S.R. and Czechoslovakia to inspect the types of plants available there and negotiate the purchase of the most suitable type. At the present stage it is not possible to state by what date or within what period the plant is likely to go into production.

SETTING UP OF OFFICES OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES BOARD

103. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States have represented to Government that the Small-Scale Industries Board should set up offices in every State with adequate powers to process loan applications from the States; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) No. Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

NUMBER OF COLLABORATING FIRMS FOR INDIAN INDUSTRIES

104. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign collaborating firms approved for Indian industries during the last three months; and

(b) the names of industries for which these firms were approved?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) and (b) During the three months ended 30th September 1963 the Government of India have approved 79 foreign collaboration cases. These were mainly in the fields of Chemical, Electrical, Engineering and Automobile industries. Some of the important industries are Plasticisers, Intermediates, Starch and Dextrose Powder, Aluminium Paste, Transformers, Cables, Switchgear, Malleable iron casting, Industrial turbines, Steel forgings, Pumps, Machine tools, Automobile ancillaries, shock absorbers etc. Details of these approvals such as names of Indian Parties, names of the foreign parties and items of manufacture are published quarterly in the Journal of Industry and Trade.

HIGH PRODUCTION COST IN INDIAN INDUSTRY

105. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of INTERNATIONAL TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian industry is not able to compete successfully in foreign markets due to comparative high production cost and consequent high prices; and

(b) if so, what are the measures Government contemplate to take to remove the drawback?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH):

(a) Yes; Sir, in several fields Indian industries find it difficult to compete in foreign markets on account of high production costs.

(b) The facilities given to the Industries include:

- (i) Priority in import of machinery and plant for modernisation;
- (ii) Import of cheaper raw materials from abroad;
- (iii) Supply of indigenous raw materials at concessional prices;
- (iv) Popularisation of latest productivity techniques.

An Expert Committee on Cost Reduction Study has been appointed to examine the question in detail in respect of individual industries and make appropriate recommendations.

LICENSES FOR NEW INDUSTRIES

106. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licenses issued in the first six months of this year for setting up of new industries; and

(b) how many licenses have been issued to existing industrial units and to new units respectively?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) and (b) Particulars of all industrial licences issued are published regularly in the "Bulletin of Industrial Licences, Import Licences and Export Licences" and the "Indian Trade Journal", both

of which are Weeklies, and in the Monthly "Journal of Industry and Trade". Copies of these publications are available in the Library of the House.

TARGET OF PAPER PRODUCTION

107. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of paper in the country is expected to come up to the target fixed for the Third Five Year Plan in its last year; and

(b) if the production is likely to fall short of the target, what steps Government are going to take to increase the production?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) Substantially—Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

DISBURSEMENT FROM MARKETING DEVELOPMENT FUND

108. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of INTERNATIONAL TRADE be pleased to state the amount that has been disbursed from the Marketing Development Fund so far; the names of the parties and the amount allocated to them and the way in which they were spent?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): A statement showing the amounts approved for disbursement from the Marketing Development Fund is attached.

Up-to-date figures regarding actual drawal of the amounts by different parties are not yet available.