

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, as the House knows, there has been a dynamic programme spread over the last seven or eight years and a phenomenal growth has taken place in the matter of small-scale industries.

FOREIGN COLLABORATION IN RESPECT OF CONSUMER GOODS OR LIGHT INDUSTRIES

***574. SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted foreign collaboration in respect of certain consumer goods or light industries like tapes and chaff cutting blades; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

One collaboration agreement for the manufacture of chaff cutter blades has been approved. Quality of blades now produced in the country is not regarded as satisfactory as the blades wear out very fast. In this line of manufacture a degree of technology is involved and the composition of the special steel and heat treatment are important factors.

As regards steel tapes (measuring tapes), some proposals for their manufacture with foreign collaboration are under consideration. No scheme has yet been approved.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to promote and encourage foreign collaboration even in the field of consumer goods or light industries?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, that is not a general policy as such. Any particular product which requires

higher technology than is available in the country is considered on its merits, irrespective of consumer goods or engineering goods or heavy industries or light industries. It is judged on merits.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Are we to understand that our technology is not as much developed as to manufacture blades which do not wear out?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is precisely so, Sir. The blades which we manufacture with indigenous technology, because of lack of knowledge and composition of the steels which go into the manufacture of these chaff blades, are wearing out very fast, whereas normally they should not wear out so fast. That is why this new collaboration is had.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: It does not really seem to be a matter of technical knowledge but I think it all depends on the quality of steel which is used.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It is not so much a question of quality of steel. It has to be processed and all sorts of sharpening operations have to take place. It is, therefore, really a matter of technical know-how, Sir.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: May I know how many days each blade lasts?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It will depend on the various sizes and various other operations, but it is a fact that all the people who are using them have made complaints that they are wearing out very fast.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know whether, in view of the foreign exchange crisis, unnecessary consumer goods industries where foreign collaboration is involved will be discouraged and rather emphasis will be placed on the basic and heavy industries?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This will save the foreign exchange which was otherwise being consumed by the raw

materials, which also cost us foreign exchange, which is consumed at a very fast speed.

FORMATION OF NAGALAND STATE

*575. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a Bill for the formation of Nagaland State during the current Session of Parliament; and

(b) whether the Naga leaders have been consulted in this connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

A Bill has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on the 21st August, 1962.

(b) Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know the opinion of the Assam Government in regard to this matter, whether any adverse comments have been made in respect of the formation of this State, in the Assam Legislative Assembly?

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Sir, the Assam Legislative Assembly has given its approval with regret.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: May I know, Sir, the population involved, the area involved and the budgetary expenditure that is going to be incurred?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Sir, I understand that the population involved is a little under four hundred thousand. The budgetary expenditure I cannot give straightway, but it is mostly met from the Central Revenues.

MEDICAL COLLEGE IN PONDICHERRY

*576. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Medical College was started at Pondicherry six years ago;

(b) how the college is financed and to which university it is affiliated; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to see that the college functions properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Medical College is financed by the Central Government and is affiliated to the University of Madras.

(c) The College is functioning satisfactorily.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I know the total expenditure on the College?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, the total expenditure on the College alone, i.e., excluding the buildings that we are constructing now, varies from year to year. The latest estimate for 1962 is Rs. 25 lakhs 15 thousand and 9 hundred.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Are Government satisfied with the accommodation provided for students in this College?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Certainly not, Sir. Government is not satisfied with the accommodation provided, but it is building hostels for students and one wing for a hostel will be ready by November, 1962.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Has any official of the External Affairs Ministry visited Pondicherry to find out the grievances of students staying in the hostel?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have visited Pondicherry from time to time but no complaint has been received from the Medical College except that they do not have proper buildings, and the delay in construction of buildings is really due to the difficulty in getting building materials in adequate quantities.