

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What is the normal medium of instruction in the primary schools in Goa?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: In the case of the private schools, the medium of instruction is Marathi.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether it is not a fact that books in Marathi have been proscribed even beyond the school Stage?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: They were proscribed but now, I think, for the current year the rules have been relaxed but they are strictly censored.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Is there any truth in the suggestion that the Portuguese authorities are importing teachers from Portugal in preference to the local teachers?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have no knowledge of that.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: How long has the Government been considering this proposition, Sir?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have already said, Sir, that the proclamation or the order was enforced on the 2nd of October, 1958.

श्री पा० ना० राजभोज : क्या मंत्री महोदया कृपा करके बता सकती हैं कि गोआ के विद्यार्थी कौन से बोर्ड के अथवा यूनिवर्सिटी के इन्स्टिट्यूट दे सकते हैं ऐसी हालत में ?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The students from Goa used to come to India for their S.S.L.C. and also to continue their studies.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether the hon. Minister has got some information regarding whether the people of Goa are protesting against this or not?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: I have no information, Sir.

INDIAN OXYGEN LTD., CALCUTTA

*638. { SHRI Z. A. AHMAD:
†SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to certain complaints about the functions and activities of the Indian Oxygen Limited, Calcutta;

(b) whether certain changes have recently taken place in the company following some reference to this company in the Lok Sabha; and

(c) if so, what are the changes?

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

STATEMENT

(a) About a week ago, the All India Indian Oxygen and Acetylene Employees' Federation, Calcutta, made certain complaints about the Indian Oxygen Ltd. The matter is under examination.

(b) and (c). As a result of some discussions that the Government had with them, the firm was converted into a public limited company in January, 1958, with its name changed to Indian Oxygen Ltd. from the Indian Oxygen and Acetylene Co., Ltd. It is no longer a wholly foreign subsidiary, as 30 per cent. of the share capital is now held by the Indian public.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether this particular concern, the Indian Oxygen Ltd., is a subsidiary of the British Oxygen Ltd.?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: In a sense, it was but now at the instance of the Government, that concern has

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bhupesh Gupta.

been converted from a private limited company into a public limited company and 30 per cent. of the shares have been thrown open to Indian hands.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I do not know how the sense has changed now.

May I know whether the Government is aware that the recent prospectus issued by the Company reveals that out of nine Directors, six are British?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: That is true. Three are Indian Directors in the whole Board of Directors. It bears almost the same ratio as the holding of the shares.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether it is a fact that the British Restrictive Practices Commission made certain very strong and adverse comments against the parent British Company and also demanded certain action against that company?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This matter has been raised by the hon. Member several times before and I have given very detailed answers. Although the British Commission against malpractices did raise that question and the parent company was under investigation there, as far as the Indian company is concerned, it is completely under our control and the entire price structure is regulated by us.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether Government is aware of the fact that even in the Indian press, "The Statesman" of 3rd January, 1957, reports appeared to the effect that this parent company was guilty of concealing profits and so on?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: As far as this matter is concerned, I have already answered that it did come to our notice not only through the papers but through actual investigations by us and we ourselves took action to see that the private limited

company was converted firstly into a public limited company and secondly, 30 per cent. of the holdings were thrown to Indian hands.

Regarding the price which was the main point in the Commission's Report, they have taken severe steps in England and we ourselves are regulating the prices here.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether the hon. Minister's attention has been drawn to continuing malpractices in the company and also whether the trade union has demanded that this company, in view of its national importance, be nationalised?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: We have received some complaints from the trade union there and, as I have said already, the matter is being looked into.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ANDHRA PRADESH GOVERNMENT FOR ANDHRA PAPER MILLS, RAJAHMUNDRY

*639, SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of foreign exchange required by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the Andhra Paper Mills at Rajahmundry; and

(b) whether any decision has been taken by Government regarding the grant of foreign exchange to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for this project?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The Andhra Government applied for a licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act to effect substantial expansion of the Andhra Paper Mills, but