

print and other papers and stationery also—do Government propose to impose the same economy measures which were imposed in the years 1940 to 1948?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, such a situation has so far not arisen but such a possibility cannot be ruled out. Of course the production is going up and licences for about 21 new factories have already been granted and it is hoped that the second Plan target of 3-5 lakh tons would be more than exceeded, but in case there is a failure and we find that there is a gap between the demand and the supply, we may resort to any type of emergency action or measures as may be found necessary and practicable.

SHRIAMTI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if the Government is aware that even in the Delhi market the price of white printing paper has increased by three to four annas per lb.?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: There are different qualities and kinds of paper. As I was saying, some imported varieties might have gone up where there is a shortage because we cannot release foreign exchange. This is true not only of printing paper or art paper but of many commodities which are being imported from foreign countries.

GRAMOPHONE RECORDS FOR THE USE OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS

*286. SHRI P. N. RAJABHOJ: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government are producing gramophone records exclusively for the use of secondary schools? If so, what is the nature of these records?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
TO THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND
BROADCASTING (SHRI C. S. RAJAGOPALAN):
The possibility of producing some disc
records of selected school broadcast by the
Transcrip-

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tion Service of A.I.R., for sale is being examined. The Ministry of Education is also considering the facilities that should be provided in schools for using such records.

श्री पा० ना० राजभोज : क्या मैं जान
सकता हूँ कि कितनी पाठशालाओं को ये
रिकार्ड्स दिये गये हैं ?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I just said that the proposal is under examination, and so the question of distributing it to the schools does not arise now.

श्री पा० ना० राजभोज : कब से ये
रिकार्ड्स बन रहे हैं ?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: There is an advisory committee formed for this purpose and they are going into the question of what type of scripts should be used for the records. After that only we will start.

SHRI RAGHAVENDRA RAO: What will be the agency that will make the selection?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: I have already said that there is an advisory committee constituted for this purpose.

DR. A. N. BOSE: What are the languages in which these gramophone records will be made?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: At present it is contemplated in English and Hindi.

MANUFACTURE OF SECURITY CHEQUE PAPER

*287. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether security cheque paper is manufactured in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that a firm of Kanpur has been granted a licence
j to import security cheque paper; and

(c) if so, how much foreign exchange is involved in the import licence granted to the firm?

THE MINISTER OF ' INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir. However some imports are necessary to meet the full requirements of the country.

(b) and (c). A firm in Kanpur has been given permission to print cheque forms with foreign collaboration. They have not, however, been granted any import licence for cheque paper so far.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know how much foreign printed security cheque papers are still being imported?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It is about Rs. 15 lakhs on the whole for the bank form and the cheque form. As far as currency papers are concerned, it runs into about a crore of rupees.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know how much of the requirements of cheques is being met by Indian printed cheques?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Very little so far but the efforts are that with the two local manufacturers and perhaps with a public sector factory which might be established by the Government of India we may be in a position to cover most of our requirements in the next three to four years.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that import licence to the tune of Rs. 2,58,000 was granted to the Kanpur firm?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: When a firm starts manufacturing something, in the initial stage to make up for their production programme certain token licences may have to be given. But I will enquire into the matter and inform the hon. Member.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that another firm which has been printing cheques for a longer period was refused-import licence for the same purpose?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: If the hon. Member gives me the name of the firm, certainly I will look into the matter.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: The Calcutta Prototype Company Limited.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: I will certainly look into the matter and inform the hon. Member what is the position with regard to the Calcutta factory and what is the position with regard to the Kanpur factory.

MANUFACTURE OF SODIUM SULPHATE

*288. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Sodium Sulphate being manufactured in India; and

(b) what was its price per ton on 1st March, 1956, 1st March, 1957, and 1st March, 1958?

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

STATEMENT

Quantity of Sodium Sulphate manufactured in India and Prices thereof.

(a) About 10,000 tons per annum (excluding supplies made from natural deposits at Didwana).

(b) Price charged for naturally occurring sodium sulphate at Didwana was Rs. 100 per ton, f.o.r. Merwar-Bailia. The price of the by-product sodium sulphate ranged as follows depending upon the sodium sulphate content as well as the nature and quantity of impurities:—