

## RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, 4th September 1957

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

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### UNDERGROUND INSPECTION OF MINES

\*443. DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many underground inspections of mines have been made by the Chief Inspector of Mines during the years 1955-56 and 1956-57; and

(b) how many mines have been inspected by other Inspectors at least once, and how many have been inspected more than once, during the same period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: As the information is being collected, may I also ask the hon. Minister to let me know the mileage drawn for T.A. by road and rail, how much of it is by road, and when it is by road whether this had been only through Government conveyances—Government conveyances are supplied to officers—or whether it was through private conveyances also?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are asking to supply you additional information and when he gives the information to you.

DR. SEETA PARMANAND: Information may also be

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

DR. R. B. GOUR: May I know from the hon. Minister if it is a fact that police investigations have taken place against one of these Inspectors or Chief Inspectors of Mines?

SHRI ABID ALI: Not against the Chief Inspector but an assistant; against him police investigation was held.

DR. R. B. GOUR: With what result, may I know?

SHRI ABID ALI: A report was submitted and subsequently departmental enquiry was conducted. The result was communicated to the U.P.S.C. and they found that the man was technically guilty. He was punished.

#### MANUFACTURE OF SPRING PRESS BUTTONS

\*444. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether spring press buttons are manufactured in India; if not,—

(b) the efforts which are being made to manufacture them here; and

(c) whether any applications have been received for the import of necessary machinery?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) it is presumed that by spring press buttons, the Hon'ble Member is referring to snap fasteners. If so, this item is not at present manufactured in the country.

(b) Three schemes for the manufacture of snap fasteners have been approved in the large scale sector and four schemes in the small scale sector.

(c) Yes, Sir. Two firms have so far applied for licences for the import of machinery. One firm has already been granted a licence and the case of the other is under consideration.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: Has the import of spring press button been banned?

**SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:** Since July—September period it has been banned. Before that it was permitted on a restricted scale.

**SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD:** May I know when Indian spring press buttons will be manufactured?

**SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:** Within a year or so, looking to the licences that have been granted.

**SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:** What is the consumption in the country?

**SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH:** This is not an item which normally goes into regular consumption, but our estimate is about 24 lakhs gross per annum; that is the demand in the country.

#### HIGH POWER LABOUR COMMISSION

**\*445. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD:** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint a High Power Labour Commission to enquire into the labour conditions and to study the need of changes in the existing labour laws; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps are being taken in this connection?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD:** Is it thought unnecessary for a Labour Commission to be appointed at this time?

**SHRI ABID ALI:** Yes; we do not consider it necessary at this time.

#### PURCHASE OF SHIPS AND HEAVY MACHINERY FROM POLAND

**\*446. SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ships and other heavy machinery purchased from Poland in the last six months; and

(b) whether it is a fact that we have paid more price for diesel engines imported from Poland as compared to those imported from any other country?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA):** (a) No ships have been purchased from Poland during the last six months. A statement showing imports of machinery from Poland during the period January—April 1957 is laid on the Table of the Sabha. Information for subsequent months is not yet available.

(b) There have been no imports of diesel engines from that country.

#### STATEMENT

*Imports of Heavy Machinery from Poland during January—April 1957.*

Information for subsequent months of 1957 is not yet available.

	Value in '000 Rs.
Metal working machinery .	990
Mining construction and other industrial machinery .	566
Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances .	87
<b>TOTAL</b> .	<b>1,643</b>

**NOTE.**—Imports of ships and diesel engines are nil during January—April 1957.

**SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM:** May I know whether we got the machinery under some aid program or as a gift or as a long-term or whether we had to money?

**SHRI SATISH CHANDRA:** machinery has been from Poland.