

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Through the same normal agency as in the case of indigenous cement.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know whether any representations have been sent to the Corporation and the Government of India to entrust this distribution of imported cement through co-operative societies?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Generally the policy is that we do give encouragement to co-operatives, but this being a very very large quantity, the co-operative societies cannot distribute or are not so widespread, so that the channels existing already and the co-operatives where they exist are utilised for this purpose. If the hon. Member desires any co-operative society to be considered, he may please let me know.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know the difference in price between the imported and indigenous cement, and how much of the extra surplus is going to the equalisation fund?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, There is a misunderstanding. Firstly the difference in price is about 40 to 50 rupees per ton between indigenous cement and imported cement. As far as the equalisation fund is concerned, there is no separate fund as in the case of steel. This is purely one of trading account. Whatever quantity of imported material that comes and whatever is the indigenous production, all goes into the pool.

SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: May I know why item-wise accounts cannot be kept in the matter of equalisation?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: There are hundreds of items with which the Corporation is dealing, and you cannot keep item-wise accounts, as the overheads are there, the interest charges are there, the working capital is there and anybody connected with business would agree that item-wise accounts are not feasible.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Is it not a fact that the prices of cement have been steadily and continuously rising during the last two years?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, it is a matter of opinion. A certain amount of levy of excise duty.....

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: It is not a matter of opinion. It is a matter of fact.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Have you finished?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No Sir. I know that the hon. Member will be satisfied when he knows that our main aim is to see that indigenous production rises and also to see that the use of cement is conserved to the minimum necessary, and to that end, all these measures have actually helped.

POSTPONEMENT OF INSTALLATION OF
PILOT TELEVISION PROJECT AT
DELHI AND BOMBAY

*521. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to instal a Pilot Television Project at Delhi and Bombay has been dropped or postponed to the Third Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, what would be the saving to the Central Exchequer as a result of the postponement of this scheme?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN): (a) and (b). The original proposal was to establish a Television Station at Bombay and a small experimental unit at Delhi for educational and cultural purposes. The proposal for Bombay has been postponed for some time. The experimental unit at Delhi is still under consideration. The Bombay project was estimated to cost about 40 lakhs of rupees.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know the total estimated expenditure of the Delhi Project and whether the same is likely to begin working during the Second Five Year Plan?

SHRI G RAJAGOPALAN: It is about Rs. 5 lakhs. This has been necessitated because in its last session the UNESCO suggested having an experimental television unit in Delhi, the cost of which would be Rs. 5 lakhs. It is under consideration.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know how many AIR technicians are likely to be trained abroad for this purpose, and what would be the cost?

SHRI G RAJAGOPALAN: At present we have not sent any person abroad for television purposes.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: If you are sending, how much would be the cost?

SHRI G RAJAGOPALAN: We are not sending anybody.

श्री पी० एन० राजगोपाल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि कौन कौन से राज्यों में कितने कितने केंद्र स्थापित किये गये हैं ?

डा० बी० वी० केशव : यह सवाल टेलीविजन के बारे में है, और अगर आनरेबल मेम्बर ने गोर में जवाब सुना होगा, तो उनको मालूम हुआ होगा कि किसी राज्य में कोई केंद्र स्थापित करने का इस वक्त विचार नहीं है ।

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know whether the Government of India has purchased or acquired any T.V. set which was installed at the Industrial Exhibition?

SHRI G RAJAGOPALAN: We have purchased at considerably less cost chain cameras that the Philips had used during the last exhibition in Delhi.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Have the AIR any technicians to operate the set which has been purchased or acquired, and when is it likely to be set up?

DR B. V. KESKAR: We have had one or two engineers who had gone out of the country to have experience and while they were there, we had also asked them to get some experience in the television line. We have not yet sent for this purpose any technicians outside. As far as operating the cameras is concerned, it is not such a difficult process. It is the other technical aspect which is more difficult.

SETTING UP OF CENTRAL DESIGN CENTRES

*522 DR RAGHUBIR SINH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the Central Design Centres have started functioning, and if so, from which dates;

(b) when the remaining centres will begin to function; and

(c) whether any schemes for setting up different sub-centres in specialised areas are under consideration by Government: and if so, when they will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) to (c). Government of India have schemes for starting Design Centres for Small Scale Industries, Handicrafts and Handloom industry. A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House.