

Contracts of the Central Public Works Department. This Report was made available both to the contractors, I believe, and it has been before the Government. This arbitration aspect has also been thoroughly gone into.

SHRI LALCHAND HIRACHAND DOSHI: Has a copy of this Report been made available to the contractors' organisation?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I think they were already aware of this Report. Copies of this Report have been placed in the Library of Parliament. It is public property.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : उनके टर्म्स आफ कंट्रैक्ट क्या हैं, आप बता सकते हैं ?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: If the hon. Member reads this Report, all the information that he might wish to have is available.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is in the Library.

†AUTOMATIC ACCOUNTING MACHINES

*621. **SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state what types of automatic accounting machines are available in India for use in offices and how many of them were invented by Indians?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): Automatic accounting machines are not manufactured in India at present. The requirements of these machines for offices are therefore met by imports. As far as is known, none of them were invented so far in India.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: May I know what are the advantages by means of these automatic accounting machines?

†Postponed from the 11th September, 1957.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: They are so well known by the very name of 'automatic'. It is so obvious that the automatic machine does work automatically, reduces the number of hands and does more precise and accurate work.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: May I know whether these machines offer chances for the reduction of their accounting staff?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Yes, but that is not precisely the only purpose. When the company becomes very big and particularly when there are companies like the Banks and insurance companies and chartered accountants' firms where all the work is in figures, they find it easier to handle this way than employing too many clerks.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: Are these machines purchased and used at present?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Yes, and also progressively being introduced, though we are not encouraging it very much excepting where it is absolutely necessary.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: Is the Government aware that there is a machine known as Hollerith accounting machine and that this type of machines are not sold, but they are supplied on rent?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: The Hollerith machine which the hon. Member refers to has both; they sell them outright as well as on hire-purchase system and renting arrangements.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: My question is regarding the collection of these rents when they lend the machines to the Department—whether the money collected by these firms is spent in India or sent abroad.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: It varies from contract to contract, because a foreign firm which sells the machine

instead of taking the money in a lump-sum, takes it in instalments.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You must ask the firms.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: What is the answer?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That will do, Mr. Mukerjee.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether the accuracy of these accounting machines has been satisfactorily tested?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Generally, the reports are that there are 19 varieties of machines in this country. Most of them are working satisfactorily. As a matter of fact, for the additional information of the hon. House, we have approved recently a scheme to manufacture some of these machines in India.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know the number of these machines which were imported into India?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Those figures are not being kept because there are several types of machines and being a very small item, they are not kept on separate trading account.

श्री नव.ब सिंह चौहान : यह खराब हो जाती हों क्या पता है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : तो रिपेयर हो जाती हैं ।

LOAN SANCTIONED TO SALEM-ERODE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEMES

*647. SHRIMATI YOSHODA REDDY: (ON BEHALF OF SHRI T. S. PATTABIRAMAN): Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Salem-Erode Electricity Distribution Company has

applied for a loan of Rs. 15,81,850 for implementing certain rural electrification schemes; and

(b) if so, whether the loan has been sanctioned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): (a) The Government of Madras have requested for the inclusion in the "programme of power expansion facilities for increasing employment opportunities" an additional item titled "Loan to Salem-Erode Electricity Distribution Co., Ltd.," for rural electrification schemes proposed to be executed by that Company. The amount of loan proposed for this Company was Rs. 10.16 lakhs.

(b) No, Sir.

SHRI D. A. MIRZA: Knowing the importance of these industrial centres, why have they failed to sanction the loan, Sir?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: I would like to inform the hon. Member that these schemes which were specifically meant for the First Five Year Plan period and were intended to provide immediate relief to the unemployed could not provide immediate relief to unemployment during the First Plan. Those schemes were not extended to the Second Five Year Plan period. We have however said that even in the Second Five Year Plan period, we would like this assistance to continue almost in the same form. But many administrative details have to be worked out. This scheme particularly refers to the category related to the First Five Year Plan period. So, it has not been favourably considered.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know if this company is a private limited company or a public limited company?

SHRI S. N. MISHRA: This is a private company, Sir.