

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Not that I know of.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is there any proposal to start a heavy electrical equipment industry?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Exactly for that purpose Government appointed a committee. That committee has now submitted its report.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: How many units are there in the country now manufacturing heavy electrical equipment?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I want notice, • Sir.

IMPORT LICENCES FOR SEWING MACHINES

*454. SHRI S. N. DWIVEDY: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) by which date licences for the import of sewing machine parts are likely to be issued; and

(b) what are the names of the firms that have applied for the licences?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to paragraph 13 of section 1 of the Policy Red Book for the period January-June 1955.

(b) There is still time for submission of applications by importers and hence the information cannot be given.

SHRI KANHAIYALAL D. VAIDYA: May I know whether Government is going to give licences to those firms which are producing the machines and will refuse to give licences to those firms which are not producing the machines?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The policy statement gives the terms and conditions under which licences will be granted.

SHRI KANHAIYALAL D. VAIDYA: May I know whether any representations were made by the producing companies to the effect that they alone should be given the licence and that the other persons should not be given as they are getting the spare parts and are selling them in the black market charging 500 per cent, more?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Certain representations were received¹ from the Punjab Government and more details have been called for.

FACTORY FOR MANUFACTURE OF EXPLOSIVES

*455. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the setting up of a factory in India for the manufacture of explosives; and

(b) the particulars relating to the proposed factory?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) and (b). A public limited company under the name of Indian Explosives Ltd., has been registered with an authorised capital of Rs. 4 crores for the manufacture of commercial blasting high explosives for civilian use. The factory will be situated at Gumia, Hazaribagh District, Bihar. Out of the issued capital of Rs. 2 crores, Rs. 10 lakhs have been called up and paid. Negotiations are being conducted by the company with the Bihar Government for acquisition of land. Orders have been placed by the company for machinery and plant for the factory.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, whether foreign personnel will be requisitioned with regard to the running of this factory?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: In the initial stages, foreign personnel will be required.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: May I know the details of the foreign experts who would be coming?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The details are not readily available.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the Government's share in this concern, Sir?

PROF. G. RANGA: The whole of it.

(Interruptions.)

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Government 'have no share in it.

PROF. G. RANGA: Is it not a fact, Sir, that Government themlasWes have floated this concern?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No.

PROF. G. RANGA: That is what *you* have said.

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir.

PRICES OF THE PUBLICATIONS ISSUED BY THE PUBLICATIONS DIVISION

*456. SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether there is any method by which the prices of the various journals published by the Publications Division are fixed?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN) : The prices of the journals brought out by the Publications Division are at present fixed in each case after taking into account the average size of the journal, volume of illustrations, nature of its contents and the requirements of publicity. Recently a Cost Accountant *inter alia* examined the question of sale price of journals and pamphlets and his report is under consideration.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: The Parliamentary Secretary forgot the

most important factor which goes in fixing the prices of journals and that is the* quality of paper on which it is printed. Superfine glazed paper is used for periodicals and it is costly.

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: That is also taken into consideration. I said, "Recently a Cost Accountant *inter alia* examined the question and his report is under consideration".

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: May I know whether Government ever strikes a balance between profit and loss while considering the prices to be fixed?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Government journals are not meant for profit but we try to see, as far as possible, that Government is not put to loss. If we are making profit in any particular journal or publication, we try to reduce the price.

PROF. G. RANGA: Is any effort being made to push the sales of these journals and publications through our Embassies, especially such excellent publications like the "March of India", "Paintings of contemporary Indian Artists", "Life of Mahatma Gandhi in Pictures," and so on?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: These journals are taken by the External Affairs Ministry and they see to their distribution in foreign countries.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if any proposals for abridging some of these publications have been considered by Government? Some of the publications are bulky.

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Probably Mr. Gupta is thinking of the various reports published. The Publications Division does not publish these reports; that is done by the Manager of Publications.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Am I to understand that these publications are supplied only on a cost basis?