

materials will result in hardship. But, as I have said, we are making efforts to reduce the cut as far as possible as and when the resources are available.

Shri S. C. Samanta: With reference to part (c) of the question, may I know whether any other representation has come to the Ministry to the effect that some small-scale industries would not have foreign exchange, though it is very small, for buying machines and other things?

Shri Kanungo: We have a large backing of import of machinery for the small industries and we are trying to accommodate them as much as possible. But there will always remain this difficulty till resources are available.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या इम्पोर्ट में इस कट की वजह से, छोटी इण्डस्ट्रीज में जो स्टाफ और काम करने वाले लगे हुए हैं, उनमें में से बहुत से बेरोजगार हो जायेंगे ? यदि हां, तो क्या मिनिस्टर साहब ने इस बात का अनुमान लगाया है कि कितने लोग बेकार होंगे ?

श्री फातूनगी : इसका हिसाब नहीं है ।

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the cut is about machinery alone or it is for other materials also, like spare parts, raw materials, etc.?

Shri Kanungo: All along.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What is the total quantum of import required by the small-scale industry as compared with the large-scale industry? Is any consideration given to the imports for small-scale industry in the light of Government's policy to encourage it?

Shri Kanungo: I could not give the figures but it is a fact that we tried to accommodate as much of the demand as possible. The ratio between the same production in the different scales of industries is very difficult to assess.

Taxes on Tea

***413. Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman of the Assam Tea Planters' Association on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Association urged the Government to appoint a high level committee to examine the repercussions of the multiplicity of taxes on the tea industry; and

(b) if so, what is Government's decision on this demand?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). Government have seen reports in the Press to this effect. Government does not think it necessary to appoint a committee. As a matter of fact, all these aspects are looked into at the time of presenting the Budget and the Finance Bill.

Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda: Are the Government aware of the difficulties experienced by the tea industry in Cachar and that one section of the producers of common tea is not in a position to avail of the relief in Central levy granted as an export incentive? If so, may I know whether Government are considering any suitable arrangement for helping this section of the tea industry there?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As the House is aware, Cachar tea has been constantly reviewed by Government. Several reliefs have been announced and in the last Finance Bill and the Budget the hon. Finance Minister announced further reliefs. Those are considered adequate.

Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda: This relief is not available to such section of the tea industry as I have mentioned, namely, the producers of common tea.

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is for the common tea that we have given this further concession rather than for the other more expensive teas.

Natural and Synthetic Rubber Production

*414. { ⁺Shri M. K. Kumaran:
Shri A. V. Raghavan:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to co-ordinate the production of natural and synthetic rubber in the country; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to develop the manufacturing aspects of the industry?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) An adequate measure of co-ordination already exists in formulating plants for production of natural and synthetic rubber in the country.

(b) A statement containing the details regarding this industry and its allied aspects is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The present level of production of natural rubber in the country is of the order of 27,000 Metric tonnes. The figures for consumption of all varieties of rubber by the rubber goods manufacturing industry are given in the table below:—

Year	(Figures in Metric tonnes)					Production of Natural Rubber	Deficit
	Consumption						
	Natural Rubber	Synthetic Rubber	Reclaimed Rubber	Total			
1954	25,895	19	2,266	28,180	21,837	6,343	
1955	27,984	107	2,542	30,633	22,841	7,792	
1956	29,460	2,457	3,313	35,220	23,819	11,401	
1957	32,273	3,080	3,898	39,251	24,147	15,101	
1958	35,312	3,304	4,116	42,732	24,171	18,015	
1959	39,282	4,410	4,526	48,218	23,772	24,446	
1960	45,948	6,651	5,328	57,830	25,192	32,638	
1961	48,319	9,600	5,929	63,848	26,992	36,856	

It will be seen that the gap between demand and supply of rubber has been steadily increasing, and with the expansion envisaged in the tyre and other rubber goods manufacturing industry the gap is expected to increase further. While the overall requirements of all varieties of rubber by 1965-66 is estimated to be 1,40,000 tonnes, the availability of rubber, including indigenous produc-

tion of raw rubber, synthetic rubber from the Bareilly unit and reclaimed rubber, by 1965-66 would be only about 90,000 tonnes. It is to bridge the gap between supply and demand after taking into consideration the availability of natural rubber in the country that steps are being taken to licence additional capacity for synthetic rubber. A synthetic rubber plant for the manufacture of