

a long time. Unfortunately, the company is not in a position to acquire the necessary know-how and technical knowledge.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: May I know whether recently the Minister of Industry in that State has approached the Central Government to help them to secure this know-how and foreign collaboration and all that?

Shri Kanungo: Yes. They have been constantly asking us for that. But the company has bungled in earlier stages and it is very difficult to do that.

Manufacture of Watches

*533. **Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any licence was issued to any Indian firm recently for manufacture of watches in collaboration with a Japanese firm;

(b) if so, the name of the firm;

(c) the main terms of collaboration with the firm; and

(d) where this factory will be located?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) No scheme for the manufacture of watches in collaboration with a Japanese firm has recently been approved by the Govt.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Shri Vishram Prasad: May I know what is the amount of money which has been spent for importing watches from foreign countries?

Shri Kanungo: At present, it is a very small fraction because we cannot just afford it. Normally, the import used to be the order of Rs. 29 lakhs. Now we are importing only watches worth Rs. 1,80,000.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question.

Shri Raghunath Singh rose—

Mr. Speaker: He did not stand up.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I wanted to stand up. I thought Mr. Hansda might put a question.

Manufacture of Watches in H.M.T.

+

*535. { **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2364 on the 26th April, 1963 and state whether Government have made any production plan or progressive target for the manufacture of watches by the H.M.T. Factory keeping in view the great demand which has been created by its good quality in the markets?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri P. C. Sethi): Yes, Sir. The production programme envisaged in the technical collaboration agreement with M/s. Citizen Watch Co., Tokyo, is as follows:—

Year	No. of watches	Indigenous content
1963-64	55,500	54%
1964-65	1,95,000	60%
1965-66	2,40,000	72%
1966-67	2,40,000	84%
1967-68	2,40,000	84%
1968-69 onwards.	3,60,000	84%

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether the price factor has been kept in mind, and whether the prices of the watches will be reduced?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): I do not think that the prices should be reduced, because even the price at which it is being sold now is quite cheap.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know the percentage of share of the foreign firm in the profit earned by this collaboration?

Shri C. Subramaniam: We pay them a lump sum for the technical know-how, and they do not share the profits.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know the requirement of India as far as the watches are concerned, and when we shall reach our target to meet all the requirements?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I do not have an estimate of the requirements.

Mr. Speaker: It is impossible to do it also.

Shri Fatehsinhrao Gackwad: Am I to understand that we shall never manufacture one hundred per cent Indian watches?

Shri C. Subramaniam: There are certain components which may not be worthwhile manufacturing here. Therefore, certain components will continue to be imported; perhaps, we shall reach a stage a little later when we would be able to manufacture all the components.

श्री कछवाय : क्या यह बात सही है कि इन घड़ियों की मांग ज्यादा हो रही है, इसलिए क्या सरकार ने कुछ दाम घटाने का विचार किया है ? क्या इन घड़ियों की मांग विदेशों से आ रही है ; यदि हाँ, तो किन किन देशों से ?

श्री प्र० चं० सेठी : दाम घटाने के बारे में अभी मंत्री महोदय ने उत्तर दिया है कि दाम घटाने का कोई इरादा नहीं है, क्योंकि पहले ही ये घड़ियाँ सस्ती कीमत पर बेची जा रही हैं । इन घड़ियों की मांग को पूरा करने के लिए उत्पादन बढ़ाने की कोशिश की जा रही है । विदेशों से इन घड़ियों की कोई मांग है या नहीं है यह जानकारी नहीं है ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that these watches for ladies as well as gents are not available in the market at all, and whenever people go and

ask for these watches in the market, other imported watches are being shown by the shop-keepers? May I know when these watches will be made available in the market? They are not available in the market at all today.

Shri C. Subramaniam: The Minister of Industry has just now stated that it is only a very small number of watches which are being imported just now. As the figures show, the production in 1963-64 is only 55,000. Therefore, the availability is limited.

Shri Kapur Singh: May I know whether Government are aware that the market price of this heavily foreign-componented watch compares very unfavourably with the price of its prototype in the parent market, and if so, the reasons therefor?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I can compare the prices only with those of watches of the same quality which are sold in India. When compared to them, the price is very cheap.

श्री अचल सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि इन घड़ियों की क्या कीमत है और कितने बरस की गारण्टी है ?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I think two years' guarantee is given.

Shri Kapur Singh: The hon. Minister has not answered my question directly, if I may say so. According to my information, this watch sells at Rs. 15 in Japan . . .

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that he can only compare the prices with those of similar watches that are being sold in India.

Shri Kapur Singh: It is a heavily foreign-componented watch, and everything is brought from Japan, and it is just assembled here. And yet,

what is being sold at Rs. 15/- there is being sold here for Rs. 100.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: May I know whether the number of varieties will be increased when full production is attained and whether the prices will also come down then?

Shri C. Subramaniam: The varieties that we are making now are quite popular. And once people get tired of the present pattern, we may change the pattern later.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: What about the prices after full production is reached?

Mr. Speaker: Now, Shri P. L. Barupal.

श्री प० ला० बाहुपाल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जैसे दूसरी घड़ियों में तारीख बताने की व्यवस्था होती है, क्या उसी प्रकार इन घड़ियों में भी वह व्यवस्था करने की कोशिश की जायगी ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी इन को बिना तारीख के ही चलने दीजिये ।

Export of Manganese

+
*536. { **Shri Ravindra Varma:**
Shri Morarka:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of manganese ore has considerably declined during the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to arrest this trend and to promote the export of this commodity?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). There has been steep fall in the international price level and many of our traditional buyers have developed captive sources of manganese supply. We are following a vigorous policy to

push up export of manganese ore through barter deals under which it is proposed to export approximately ten lakhs tons of manganese ore in the current year, i.e. 1963-64. The exports of manganese ore in 1960-61, 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64 are as under:—

	Tons (lakh:)
1960-61	11.67
1961-62	9.65
1962-63	7.51
1963-64	10.00

A statement is laid on the Table of the House giving the steps taken by Government to maintain the exports of manganese ore. [Placed in the Library. See No. LT-1666/63].

Shri Ravindra Varma: In the extremely informative statement laid on the Table, there is reference to a Committee headed by Shri Butt which will inquire into the various aspects affecting the export of manganese ore and make recommendations. Will the Committee also explore the possibility of encouraging the export of ferro manganese in view of the large accumulation of stocks of this mineral in the country and in view of the difficulties experienced in increasing the export of manganese?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is a separate question tabled on that and when I come to that, I will explain. This Committee will also visit 14 countries which are our main competitors and see what they do to secure long-term contracts; it will also see the mining process there and how they have brought the prices down.

Shri Ravindra Varma: In the statement there is a reference to the decline in export price. Will the hon. Minister be in a position to give more information about it and how our prices compare with the prices of the major competitors? He also made a reference to 'captive sources' . . .

Mr. Speaker: Not so long.

Shri Ravindra Varma: . . . that is, to buyers obtaining their requirements