

Mr. Speaker: That he has already stated.

Shri Buta Singh: In view of the fact that there is scarcity of motor cars in the country, may I know the special facilities that are being provided to the manufacturers of these vehicles?

Shri C. Subramaniam: It is difficult to answer this question during question time. We give them all assistance to import the components.

Poznan International Trade Fair

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*549. { **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**
Shri Warrior:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

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

(a) whether India had participated in the Poznan International Trade Fair held in June, 1963; and

(b) if so, the results of the participation?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The various state enterprises which control the import and export trade of Poland showed interest in the Import of India's Engineering goods and for the first time taken orders for the import of Milling Machines, Slotting Machines, Shaping Machines, Duplicating Machines etc. were booked by Indian representatives of the firms concerned, who were present at Poznan for the purpose. The total export contracts finalised during the Fair amounted to Rs. 41 lakhs which includes export of tea and black pepper of the value of about Rs. 40 lakhs. Further, export business from India to Poland to the tune of Rs. 20 lakhs is under negotiation.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: May I know whether our representatives made use of this opportunity to contact people from countries other than Poland and whether they could enter into some contracts with some firms in those countries?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The contacts were there. But, under the international trade protocol, no legal contracts are allowed or valid in a foreign land. Nevertheless, they took advantage of that opportunity to have more contacts. The 59 foreign countries which were represented at the fair were contacted by our 90 exporters and manufacturers. It will certainly result in more trade with those countries.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Raghunath Singh: Sir, may I ask a question?

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry. I have passed on to the next question.

Quality Control of Goods

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*550. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri Balmiki:

Will the Minister of **Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is compulsory for the manufacturers to obtain from the Indian Standards Institution a certificate for the quality of goods manufactured; and

(b) if not, how the quality control is maintained in all manufactured goods by different manufacturers?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) It is not compulsory for the manufacturers to obtain from the Indian Standards Institution a certificate for the quality of goods manufactured except for (i) aluminium utensils intended for export and (ii) plywood tea-chests required for export of tea.

(b) The quality control on the different manufactured goods is maintained under the provisions of certain Central, State Acts, Orders and Quality Control Schemes.

Shri Subodh Hansda: What are the measures that have been taken by the Government to stop the manufacture of sub-standard goods as had happened in the case of drugs manu-

facture in the country? What are the steps taken by the Government to stop such manufacture?

Shri Kanungo: The entire system of Indian Standards is a voluntary one. Those manufacturers who commit themselves to the voluntary scheme subject themselves to periodical inspection. Their processes and supply of raw materials are also subject to inspection. Naturally, the tendency for the customers has been to prefer in many respects manufacturers who adopt the Indian Standards Institution standards.

Shri Subodh Hansda: Has any punishment been given to any of the firms for manufacturing sub-standard goods or were any of them blacklisted for that?

Shri Kanungo: As I have said, the entire method is a voluntary system and there is no question of any penalty. If there has been cheating in the matter of drugs or something else which is governed by specific laws, there have been prosecutions and convictions.

श्री तुलसीदास जाधव : क्या सरकार का यह अनुभव है कि इंडियन स्टैंडर्ड्स इन्स्टिट्यूशन का सर्टिफिकेट पाने के बाद स्टैंडर्ड भी देश में इस कानून का उल्लंघन होता है और लोग गलत काम करते हैं ?

श्री कानूनगो : जितने मैनुफैक्चरर्स ने स्टैंडर्ड को लिया है वे स्टैंडर्ड को मैनटेन करते हैं एंड दे आर प्रउड आफ देअर स्टैंडर्ड ।

Shri D. C. Sharma: The hon. Minister has said that quality control is observed so far as aluminium and plywood industries are concerned. Has he received any complaint to the effect that quality control has been found to be defective in these industries?

Shri Kanungo: No, Sir. My answer was just the contrary, namely, that it is not voluntary control. It is statutory control as far as aluminium utensils intended for export and plywood tea-chests required for export of tea

are concerned. That is not voluntary; the rest of the standards are voluntary.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What active steps are going to be taken by Government to see that goods which are to be exported are being inspected?

Shri Kanungo: Recently my hon. colleague introduced a Bill in the House which has been passed. That provides for compulsory quality control.

Cost of Steel Production

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*551. { **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Maheswar Naik:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a scheme for bringing down the cost of production of steel in the country;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the scheme; and

(c) the action taken in pursuance of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) to (c). Various steps have been taken to bring down the cost of production of steel in the public sector such as laying down of physical standards in advance for consumption of raw materials like coal, iron ore, etc. Standards are also set for yields that should be achieved. Performance is analysed against these standards with a view to assess the extent of improvement. Special cost reduction studies are carried out at the plant level. Specific areas where cost reduction is feasible are then outlined and methods devised to achieve it. Progress made in achieving cost reduction is reviewed quarterly in the General Managers' meetings.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: How do the prices of Indian steel compare with the prices in the international market?