

apart from Col. Bhattacharya Shri Paritosh Das, who has recently been kidnapped, is also there?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It is very difficult for me to answer this question correctly unless I know the names of the persons concerned.

Shri S. M. Banarjee: I am referring to the five fishermen; I do not know their names.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have got here the whole list of persons who were arrested and kept in jail and the terms of imprisonment. Since the list only says "persons belonging to one country in detention in the other country" if I know the names, I can give the information easily.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether our Government gives any help to those people who are arrested on charges of espionage?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Those people who are arrested and convicted are in Pakistan jail. I do not know what kind of help this Government can give them.

Metric system of Measurement

*629. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Government departments have not yet adopted the metric system of measurement;

(b) whether this is creating confusion in several branches of trade and industry which supply Government orders; and

(c) whether steps will be taken to ensure that requirements of inter-connected raw materials and finished products are quoted in only one system of measurement?

The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). All major Government Departments and public undertakings, especially those like the Railways, Posts and Tele-

graphs, Custom and Excise Departments, and Import and Export Trade Controls, which have dealings with the public Trade and Industry, have adopted the metric system in their transactions. In such transactions quantities and prices are generally expressed in metric units. The adoption of metric system in Engineering departments, in the design of various articles and in specifications for materials is not complete, and is bound to take time. Even here, steady progress is being made.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Is the Minister aware of the fact that the railways and the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals are continuing to place orders for bolts and nuts in inches and not in millimetre?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is true, because there are certain industries which are still continuing to insist on that. But the majority of industrial units are switching over to the metric system. There is bound to be some over-lapping for the next few years.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Is the Minister aware of the fact that raw materials to the manufacturers are supplied in the new metric system whereas orders have been placed under the old system and this is creating a great deal of confusion?

Shri Manubhai Shah: We have issued special instructions to the steel industry to roll in inches wherever necessary for the trade and industry. Because, as the House will appreciate, there are old machines which are built to the inch system. For them, the steel has got to be rolled in inch system.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Does the Government know or has it been brought to the notice of the Government that when the Durgapur steel plant was being put up, this very question arose that there will be confusion between inches and the metric system and even at that time it was insisted that it should be in the metric system and not in inches? Now how do you propose to change

over from the inches to metric system in Durgapur?

Shri Manubhai Shah: All precautions have been taken and various types of gadgets have been introduced in the rolling section. As a matter of fact, a large percentage of the production are in the metric system and only the balance in inch system. As long as the old machines which are using the inch system are there, we cannot just tell them that there will be no rolling in inches.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that the orders which are received from abroad are only in inches and this also is creating some confusion?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There are certain countries which follow only the metric system and others who follow the inch system. Only day before yesterday some people of the Engineering Export Promotion Council met me and said that we have to make special provision for certain countries which follow only the inch system. So we will have to put up with both the inch and the metric system as far as our external trade is concerned. But in our internal trade we are switching over to the metric system.

Third Five Year Plan

*630. **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) what will be the financial outlay in its final form for the Third Five Year Plan;

(b) whether, in working out this figure, adequate provision has been made for unforeseen increase in costs that may accrue in the Plan period; and

(c) if so to what extent does the figure leave room for shifting of the balance between the expansionary and the moderating factors?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman): (a) As finalised, the Third Plan provides for an outlay of Rs. 7500 crores in the public sector and for investment of Rs. 4100 crores in the private sector.

(b) Financial provisions refer to estimates of cost available at the time the Third Plan was formulated.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Is this provision calculated in terms of our experience during the Second Five Year Plan?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Certainly, Sir.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know whether any provision has been kept in these figures for the anticipated rise in the prices of essential materials?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: No, Sir. As I have already indicated, it is based on the figures at the time of the Third Five Year Plan.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: In view of the fact that our foreign exchange position is deteriorating and dwindling—about which I read in this morning's papers also that the funds at the disposal of the Government now will be insufficient—has this question about getting all the requirements by way of capital goods and what not that we may have to import from other countries been kept in view while making this provision?

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: It is quite true. There may be some variation on account of the foreign exchange situation. But more than that I cannot say now.

Shri Morarka: May I know whether the Planning Commission has determined the hard core of the Third