

Chambers of Commerce and Industry have recently represented complaining about shortage of this equipment and whether there is going to be any augmentation of the manufacture of this equipment?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not think there is any relation between the two. We have a shortage of telephones in big cities, but that does not imply that the capacity of the telephone industry is not enough to meet the demands. Several factors have to be taken into consideration for the expansion of telephone exchanges in a big city.

Shri Daji: Will the hon. Minister assure us that before we export, the needs of our own country will be completely examined? Is it not a fact that we ourselves are in short-supply of these things?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is quite obvious that before we undertake export, the needs of our own country will be examined. But it is sometimes better to get foreign markets, so that we can undertake large-scale expansion of manufacture of this equipment in our country.

Export of Locomotives

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*48. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
 Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign market for exporting Indian locomotives has been explored;

(b) if so, the names of such markets;

(c) whether any orders have been placed by foreign countries for Indian locomotives; and

(d) if so, when the first consignment will be sent out to foreign market?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Efforts are being continued to export Indian built

Locomotives to countries in South-East and West Asia, Africa, South America, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether any negotiation has been made about the price of these locomotives and if so, whether the negotiated price is less or higher than the cost of production of these locomotives?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No such negotiation has been made; we are exploring the possibilities of export.

डा० गोविन्द दास : क्या इन इंजनों को बाहर भेजने के पहले इस बात को देख लिया जायगा कि हमारे देश में इंजनों की कितनी आवश्यकता है इन को बाहर भेजने के पहले इस बात का ध्यान रक्खा जायगा कि हम को बाहर से इंजन न मंगाने पड़ें और तभी यह इंजन बाहर भेजे जायें ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री स्वर्ण सिंह) : इन चीजों का ख्याल रक्खा जायगा ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know when we are likely to reach self-sufficiency in the manufacture of locomotives and to what extent imports have been reduced?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Locomotives are of three types. So far as steam locomotives are concerned, we are self-sufficient and we are also in a position to export. As regards diesel locomotives, we have recently set up a factory at Varanasi and entered into an agreement with ALCOS of America. So far as electric locos are concerned, some of them are being made at Chittaranjan. We will not be able to export diesel and electric locomotives for a considerable length of time. As regards steam locomotives, we have not imported them for some years.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know how the prices of the locomotives manufactured in our country compare

with the prices of locomotives on sale in outside markets?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: So far as BG Goods steam locomotives are concerned, the ones we manufacture at Chittaranjan are much cheaper than the ones that we imported before. So far as diesel and electric locomotives are concerned, we cannot compare the prices yet.

Electricity Rates

*50. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) at what rate power is made available in each State to (i) small scale industry (ii) agricultural sector and (iii) large scale industry;

(b) cases where power is given below tariff rate and below cost price and reasons for the same; and

(c) whether a detailed statement will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim): (a) and (c). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 6].

(b) The tariff for industrial and agricultural purposes in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, is lower than the average cost of generation and supply. The tariff has been so fixed by the State Electricity Boards concerned with a view to promoting industrial and agricultural production.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It would be obvious from the statement that the rates charged to the small scale industries as well as to agricultural purposes are much higher than the rates charged to large scale industries. May I know if it is in consonance with the policy of the Government and whether Government have revised their decision in this matter indicated earlier while discussing the Plan?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: The power to take decisions in this matter lies with the State Governments. What I can do is that I will bring that point to the notice of the States concerned, which has been raised by my hon. friend here.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: We have got here at the centre a Central Water and Power Commission. May I know what is the responsibility of that particular Board or Commission, and whether this matter has occurred to the Central Government only now when I have put the question or they have considered it earlier?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: The responsibilities of the States and the Centre are stated in the Constitution and the rules of procedure. As far as the liaison between the Centre and the States in this particular matter is concerned, the position is that we have to depend upon the States. It is for them to revise these things. We can only advise them and it is open to them to accept or not accept our advice. I said I will advise them as my hon. friend suggested.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: The policy in this regard is laid down by the Central Government and the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission and the Central Government have both advised the State Government that the small scale industries should be given certain incentives, and concession in power rate is included as one of those incentives. May I know what action has been taken by the Government to see that this advice is properly followed by the States?

Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim: Yes. This advice was given. I will draw the attention of my hon. friend to the figures in the statement that I have furnished. That has been acted upon and in the case of small scale industries and agricultural purposes the rates are lower than before.

Shri Morarka: Is it not a fact that the cost of energy supplied to the ulti-