

**Shri Kanungo:** It differs from State to State; but it depends upon the capacity for disbursement.

**Raw Materials**

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\*1106. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**  
**Shri Radha Raman:**

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

(a) the names of such industries both in the public and private sectors as have to depend on import of raw materials;

(b) the nature of such raw materials as are imported for our industries;

(c) the extent to which the demand of the imported raw materials when the First Five Year Plan started has diminished now; and

(d) whether any, and if so, what steps have been taken or are being taken to meet requirements of raw materials from indigenous production?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) to (d). No such statistics are separately maintained nor is it possible to collect this data. The growth of industries is going at a satisfactory pace and the production is also increasing. The average of general index of industrial production for the first nine months of 1957 was 148.8 as against the average index of 144.8 for the first nine month of 1956, and the year is likely to close with better results.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know what is the foreign exchange involved in the importation of such raw materials as are required for our industries?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** That is precisely what I have said; and that is the question put down by the hon. Member. Until the statistics are separately maintained, it is not possible to collect this data.

**Press Trust of India**

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\*1107. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**  
**Shri Hoda:**  
**Shri E. M. Rao:**

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Board of Directors of P.T.I. took a decision not to accept the Wage Board's decisions; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking in this connection?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid All):** (a) Government have no information.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Has the PTI staff sent any representation to the Labour Minister and if so, what steps have been taken?

**Shri Abid All:** Not in this connection.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** May I know whether the Government is contemplating or has decided to increase the subsidy to the PTI?

**Mr. Speaker:** How does it arise out of this question?

**Shri C. E. Pattabhi Raman:** Is it not a fact that this matter is pending before the Supreme Court?

**Shri Abid All:** The whole world knows it.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether he knows that the PTI management has agreed to implement the Wage Board's decision?

**Shri Abid All:** No reference has been made either for acceptance or for rejection of the decision of the Wage Board.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** What is the present position? What action does the Government contemplate to take in the matter to have this Wage Board decision implemented?

**Shri Abid Ali:** In case any report is made to us and representation is received, action will be taken accordingly.

**Shri Vasudevan Nair:** There is a report that the PTI staff has approached the Government for help in order to implement the decision of the Wage Board. That is why I ask this question.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a different matter. Does the hon Member suggest that wages ought to be increased and the Government should go on helping? (*Interruptions*) That does not arise out of this question.

**Indo-Asahi Glass Company Limited**

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**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**

\*1168. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**  
**Shri Vasudevan Nair:**

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

(a) whether the Sodepur and Bhurkunda Glass factories which are owned by the Indo-Asahi Glass Company Limited have gone into production;

(b) if so, on what date they have gone into production; and

(c) what are the items of production and what is their present rated capacity?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) The sheet glass factory at Bhurkunda has started production.

(b) The Bhurkunda factory commenced production on June 29, 1957.

(c) The Bhurkunda factory manufactures sheet glass and the present rate of production is of the order of 9.3 lakhs square feet per month.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether despite the fact that this glass factory had all the sympathy and the support of the IFC and the Government, it did not go into production until 1954? What are the factors which have changed the situation that it has gone into production in June 1957?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** This matter has come before this House several times in the last session and I had placed a statement on the working of this factory. As would be noticed from that statement, the IFC was negotiating with different technical teams from the world and as late as October 1956, they entered into an agreement with the Japanese Company which has now taken it over and within a period of nine months they have gone into production.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** In the light of the inefficiency on the part of the machinery which was helping the Sodepur Glass Factory, may I know whether the Government will take any step to improve that machinery?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** That is exactly the purpose. This particular factory is a combination of the Sodepur and Bhurkunda factory.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Not factory. I referred to the Government of India machinery which was helping the Sodepur Glass Factory because despite its help it cannot go into production. May I know what steps are being taken by the Government for improving that machinery, because if this machinery is allowed to run at present as it was at that time, there would certainly be no improvement?

**Mr. Speaker:** Does he refer to inanimate or animate machinery?

**Shri Nath Pal:** We thought that he was referring to the animate machinery.

**Mr. Speaker:** Why should there be an interpretation upon this. What does the hon. Member say? I am not able to follow.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** I refer to the administration in the IFC which is Government machinery or Government agency.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** I think—I am not generalising—it is a matter for