

(b) 30th August, 1957.

(c) and (d). Investigations under Section 247 of the Companies Act, 1956 are fact-finding enquiries. No recommendations by the Inspectors were expected or made. Action regarding possible contravention of Section 49 of the Act by a company mentioned in the report is being pursued. It has not been possible to publish the report as certain matters contained therein may be *sub judice* in an appeal pending before the Calcutta High Court.

**Shri R. C. Majhi:** May I know the total amount involved in cornering all shares of the Bengal Paper mills?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I do not know the amount but I can give the number of shares. According to the investigations that have been made, about 81,500 shares of this Mill have been purchased by Messrs Dhanuka, Mehta and Seth and have been registered by the company. Another 10,000 shares approximately have been purchased by them and are held in blank transfer.

**Shri Subodh Hansda:** What are the terms of reference for investigation?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The terms for investigation were to find out the real ownership of these shares. It has been established that these shares belonged to the Bangar group.

#### Manufacture of Watches and Clocks

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\*2039. { **Shri N. R. Munisamy:**  
**Shrimati Manjula Devi:**  
**Shri Damani:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to bring the manufacture of watches and clocks under the Public Sector;

(b) what is the total requirements of India for watches and clocks and

the number thereof imported at present;

(c) whether any training centres are proposed to be set up for watches and clocks; and

(d) if so, where these are to be located?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Nearly 22 lakhs numbers of watches and clocks were imported during 1956 of the total value of Rs. 3.86 crores. This number could be taken to be the approximate demand of the country for watches and clocks. Since July 1957, there is a total ban on import of watches, clocks and timepieces.

(c) and (d). The question of setting up a few training centres is under examination.

**Shri N. R. Munisamy:** What is the amount given as a loan to some of the factories and what are the terms under which loans are granted? Have they been returned?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** As far as the Central Government is concerned, no direct loans have been granted to anybody but some loans under the State Industries Act have been given by State Governments to small units.

**Shri N. R. Muniswamy:** Have any officers been sent to foreign countries for receiving training?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** No experts have been sent, but we have got two experts here who are advising us and who are being allotted to different factories for giving them guidance on how to manufacture the different components.

**Shri Damani:** What is the present capacity for manufacturing clocks and watches of our country and what are the facilities that are being given to increase the capacity?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** There are about five medium-sized clock manufacturing factories with a capacity of

40,000 clocks per year and 14 to 15 small-scale units to make the components. The facilities given to them are the technical experts of the Development Wing and the two foreign experts are placed at their disposal.

**Shri Ranga:** May I know regarding part (c) of the question as to how many training centres we are running and where?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Two training centres are proposed to be run—one at Bombay and the other at Indore.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know whether it is a fact that the cost of imported watches has gone up very high as a result of restriction of imports and if so, what is the remedy?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** This has been a general question for such items. We have banned the import of about 186 items. It is quite possible that where the imports are not now available the prices of a few commodities might have gone up, but care is constantly being taken to see that indigenous manufacturers take up their manufacture.

As far as watches are concerned we have not yet been able to make a beginning, but I assure the House that soon one wrist watch factory, perhaps in the public sector, will be installed by the Government and four or five such factories in the private sector will be encouraged.

**Shri Dasappa:** Since there is no capacity whatsoever in the country to manufacture watches, have the Government any idea of allowing some import of watches?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Not at present because the situation of foreign exchange is very difficult.

**Shri Tyagi rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** I am proceeding to the next question. The hon. Member must have risen earlier. However, he may ask one question.

**Shri Tyagi:** As this is a very important matter that India is going to

manufacture watches, I wanted to know as to how long will it take for the Government of India to be able to be self-sufficient in the production of indigenous watches.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** This is one of the most difficult lines, being a high precision thing. At a recent conference, where we called all the present small and big manufacturers of components and other parts, it was felt that no country can set up a completely indigenous watch factory in less than five years.

**Shri Tyagi:** Nor can any country stop the import of watches?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** One has to tighten the belt.

#### Code for Discipline in Industry

\*2041. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state whether the Code for Discipline in Industry adopted at the 15th Indian Labour Conference has been ratified by the Employers and Workers Organisations?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** The Code was ratified in the meeting of a Sub-Committee of Indian Labour Conference on 14th and 15th March, 1958. However, subsequent to that meeting the All India Trade Union Congress and the Hind Mazdoor Sabha have sent in representations seeking clarification on certain points. These are under consideration.

**Shri Tangamani:** May I know the names of the employers' organisations, who have ratified the Code of Discipline which was originally formulated in the 15th Indian Labour Conference and subsequently okayed by the Sub-Committee?

**Shri Abid Ali:** The organisations which participated in the Labour Conference representing the employers have ratified this Code.