

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I also ask whether it is not a fact that on account of the delay caused in some local purchases, especially of soldering material, the work in respect of these stoves was hampered for a long time?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: No. That is not the reason.

Shrimati A. Kale: Is Government aware that the stoves manufactured in Faridabad are of inferior quality, and if so, what steps have Government taken to improve the same?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Originally they were of inferior quality, but as we are progressing, they are, I am told, marketable.

CYCLES

*896. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to make the cycle-manufacturing units work up to their full rated capacity;

(b) the steps being taken to make up the lag between the requirements and the supply of bicycles; and

(c) the extent, if any, to which cycles imported or manufactured in the country are exported?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). There is still considerable leeway between internal production of bicycles and demand. Government would undoubtedly like to see internal production meet as much of the demand as possible. The industry is a protected one and imports are subjected to heavy rates of duty. This in itself is a spur for maximising production of indigenous bicycle units. Besides, the bicycle industry is kept under constant watch and review. Everything that could be done is being done to make the manufacturing units increase their production.

(c) Government have no information.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know if the industry has asked any more facilities to be given to it than what

is being given now to enable it to make the leeway between the requirements and the availability in the country?

Shri Karmarkar: Will he repeat the first part of his question?

Mr. Speaker: His question is: Are Government giving any more facilities to enable the industry to make up the leeway between the requirements and the availability in the country.

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, they are giving all facilities by way of encouraging their production, by way of supply of raw material and the machinery that they want, and by tariff protection.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: I wanted to know if the industry has requested for any more facilities to enable it to make up the leeway between the requirements and the availability in the country.

Mr. Speaker: That has been replied to.

Shri Muniswamy: How many of these manufacturing units are manned by foreigners and how do they compare with the indigenous manufacturing factories?

Shri Karmarkar: The local production compares quite favourably. It is quite all right.

Mr. Speaker: How many of these concerns are run by foreigners?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): There are a number of concerns. There are about eight of them. Six are in production, and two of them are likely to go into production. Out of these only two have got foreign tie-ups. In the case of one I think there is one foreigner employed. In the case of the other I cannot exactly say. There may be one or two.

Shri Nanadas: What is the explanation offered by the cycle manufacturing units for their failure to produce up to the rated capacity?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: "Rated capacity" is an extremely elusive

term. My hon. friend has asked a number of questions on this subject. Naturally he wants to tie us down to that figure, but I do not think there has been any failure on the part of these factories to produce upto the optimum. In the case of one factory which has been in existence for some time, their production used to be about 5,000 cycles in 1952-53 and it has gone up to 14,000 cycles. They have almost reached the peak and they are thinking of expansion. In the case of two other big factories, by the end of this year they are also likely to reach peak production which is roughly about 100,000 units each. But so far as any lag between rated capacity and actual production is concerned, there are various factors that come into the picture. Sometimes, power supply is cut, sometimes raw material is in short supply, sometimes there is labour trouble, and sometimes the equipment goes out of order. So, it is not possible always to explain why the rated capacity is not reached.

Shri Karmarkar: I might add that in the case of two factories, the actual production is in fact in excess of the rated capacity.

IMPORT OF EQUIPMENTS FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

*897. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned by the United States Government to the Indo-American Co-operation Fund, for importing equipment required for the Community Projects in India;

(b) the nature of equipments for which orders have been placed; and

(c) the nature and kinds of equipments which have already been received?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) \$10,596,000.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 79.]

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether all these equipments have been imported from America or from other countries also, and if the latter, the names of the other countries?

Shri Hathi: The equipment is not all indented from the U.S.A. It has been indented from different parts of Europe also.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether tenders were invited for the purchase of these equipments, or some negotiations were carried on?

Shri Hathi: Tenders are invited by the DGS & D.

Shri S. N. Das: What is the amount spent so far, out of the total amount allotted for this purpose?

Shri Hathi: Orders to the tune of \$ 6.46 million have already been placed, and equipment worth \$ 2.3 million has already arrived.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the names of the other countries of Europe, from which these have been imported?

Shri Hathi: For a detailed list, I would require notice.

FOREIGN VISITORS TO INDIA

*898. **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) how many people from foreign countries visited India on Government invitation during the year 1953-54 and how many Indians similarly visited foreign countries at the instance of Government;

(b) the object of their visits; and

(c) the expenditure incurred by Government on account of their visits?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.