

**THE**  
**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**  
**(Part I—Questions and Answers)**  
**OFFICIAL REPORT**

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**HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE**

*Wednesday, 24th March, 1954*

*The House met at Two of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**IMPORTED STORES SCREENING COMMITTEE**

\*1254. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether, during 1953-54, the Imported Stores Screening Committee was able to exploit the possibilities of indigenous production of any further imported stores; and

(b) if so, what were those stores?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) and (b). During 1953-54, the Imported Stores Screening Committee and its sub-committees have been able to recommend about 442 items of defence stores for indigenous production. The Services placed trial demands for 301 of these items on manufacturers within the country. Apart from general stores and clothing these items include Mechanical Transport, naval, medical, and signal stores.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** What was the value of the imports during 1952-53 of the articles recommended by this Committee for indigenous production during 1953-54?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I cannot give that figure. Certain orders may have been placed in earlier years, and

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materialized in the current financial year, but no fresh orders relating to these items have been placed abroad.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** What was the total value of imports so far as Army requirements of these stores during 1953-54 were concerned?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I have not got the figures. It is very difficult to compile figures for all these items, I can only say that the total cost of the orders which are in the nature of trial demands to begin with was about Rs. 21,46,216 in respect of the 301 items for which orders were placed on the trade in India.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether anything was done by the Army authorities or the Ministry of Defence in studying the requirements of the Army, so that indigenous production might be encouraged?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Yes, there is a Technical Development Establishment in the Army and there are also corresponding branches in the other Services. Whenever they find that a particular thing can be manufactured in this country or the Imported Stores Screening Committee recommends for its manufacture in the country, they sometimes prepare drawings and specifications etc. The trade is then asked to make articles according to those specifications.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** May I know whether the requirements for which orders had been placed have been supplied, and whether they have been found satisfactory?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Out of the total value of Rs. 21 lakhs and odd, orders worth Rs. 2,61,000 on trial demand materialised during this year. They were tested and most of them found satisfactory. The rest are being tested. This is a very recent thing. It pertains to the current financial year.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Could the hon. Deputy Minister give us an idea of the proportion of the value of imported stores purchased during 1953-54 to the total value of stores purchased during that period?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I require notice for that. That statement has been laid on the Table several times.

#### ECONOMY IN EXPENDITURE

\*1256. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the total economy effected to-date in the expenditure of the Central Government, by implementing the recommendations of the Estimates Committee?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** Approximately about rupees fifty-one lakhs (Rs. 43.3 lakhs recurring and Rs. 7.81 lakhs non-recurring) by implementing the recommendations of the first four out of six reports of the Estimates Committee. Further information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I know the Departments where these economies have been effected?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** About ten recommendations of the Estimates Committee in its first four reports have been accepted. Shall I read out all these ten recommendations?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He only wants to know the Ministries or Department where these economies have been effected.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** The following are the Departments or Ministries:

The Ministry of Industry and Supply. (Now, it is not there; it is now the Commerce and Industry Ministry.)

The Works, Housing and Supply Ministry

The Directorate-General of Supply and Disposals.

The Department of Printing and Stationery.

The Estate Office.

The Assistant Director of Exhibitions, Commerce and Industry Ministry.

The Office of the Controller of Imports and Exports.

The amalgamation of the functions of the trade representatives, Commerce and Industry Ministry.

Then there are two other reports. One concerns the Irrigation and Power Ministry and is being looked into.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सचिवालय और मंत्रालय में, ऐस्टिमेट्स कमेटी के अलावा बचत की बातों का सुझाव करने के लिये कोई जांच पड़ताल करने की व्यवस्था है ? और अगर है तो क्या काम हो रहा है ?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** The first four reports of the Estimates Committee were processed by the Finance Ministry. The fifth one is being processed by the Irrigation and Power Ministry. The sixth report was only submitted in November 1953. Again, there is an Economy Unit in the Ministry of Finance which is looking into all the Ministries in order to economise the expenditure.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I know in which of these departments the economy was the largest?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I cannot allow the whole question hour to be taken up by details read out by the Minister.