

**Enquiries against Synthetic and Chemicals Limited.**

8232. SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many enquiries are being conducted presently by the Central Bureau of Investigation against Synthetics and Chemicals Limited and its directors;

(b) what are the charges for such enquiries and since how long these enquiries are going on; and

(c) when the Central Bureau of Investigation is expected to complete its enquiries and to submit its reports to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) to (c). The Central Bureau of Investigation has reported that apart from the enquiry into the collection of funds from the companies in the guise of contribution as advertisement charges in Souvenirs proposed to be published by the AICC, in which M/s Synthetics and Chemicals Limited is also involved, it is not conducting any investigation in relation to this company. The said investigation is in the final stage.

**Import of Stainless Steel**

8233. SHRI F. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total year-wise import of stainless steel sheets needed for utensils industry during the year from 1974 to 1978;

(b) whether the small scale re-roller units which are on the verge

of closure cannot cater to the requirements of small stainless utensils manufacturers;

(c) whether the reduction in import of stainless steel sheets was due to the built up capacity of these small re-rollers units to meet the country's full demand; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to discontinue import of stainless steel sheets to help these units meeting the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Import of stainless steel sheets/plates/strips for utensil making was banned under the policy till 1975-76. However, some import on *ad hoc* basis by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC) was allowed in October 1975 for utensil making. Stainless steel sheets in gauges 22 to 28 are mainly used for utensil making but these have other end uses also. Total import in these gauges by the canalising agency MMTC during 1974-78 were as below:—

Year	Quantity in tonnes
1974-75	7478
1975-76	4425
1976-77	6001
1977-78	9181
1978-79	14730

(b) to (d). The Small Scale Re-rollers are not capable of meeting the demands of the utensil manufacturers in full in terms of quality, size and quantity. Hence Government do not consider that there is any justification, at present, to discontinue import of stainless steel sheets as the policy is considered to be fair and equitable to all concerned.