

Imported dairy equipment have long delivery schedules. Hence the figures relating to receipt of imported equipment include orders placed in years prior to 1979-80.

(b) The Indian Dairy Corporation has so far placed orders for purchase of equipment worth Rs. 1.92 crores on M/s. HMT and received equipment worth Rs. 1.12 crores from them. These equipment include Milk Pasturisers, Milk Separators, Milk Chillers, Butter packing machines etc. The dairy equipment factory proposed to be set up by the Indian Dairy Corporation was given up in favour of HMT based on the views of Committee on Public Undertakings that before setting up a new unit in the public sector, the possibilities of manufacture of dairy equipment through existing public sector units, like, HMT, should be explored.

(c) The Indian Dairy Corporation/National Dairy Development Board submit all proposals for import of equipment to the Government for release of foreign exchange and issue of import licence before placing firm orders. All such proposals are scrutinised from various angles including the indigenous availability before giving clearance. One of the proposals under examination of the Government is for import of stainless steel fittings worth Rs. 84.30 lakhs C.I.F.

Import of Milk Tester from Denmark

4540. SHRI L.S. TUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dairy Board have imported milk testers from Denmark under World Bank Project through Rajasthan Electronics, Kota and if so, the full details thereof ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the imported milk testers are not working

satisfactorily and if so, the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken; and

(c) whether Government will order an inquiry in the entire working of the Dairy Board and its import mania including its operations in respect of Dairy, Oil seeds, Rural Institute Foot and Mouth vaccine, Casein and foreign experts etc., projects which are hindering self-reliance and indigenous production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R.V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Dairy Corporation has placed an order for the supply of 2200 Milk Testers on Rajasthan Electronics and Instruments Limited (REIL) Jaipur, a public sector undertaking. Out of this, 1200 numbers are imported in finished form and remaining 1000 numbers will be produced by the REIL from imported components under technical collaboration with the suppliers.

(b) About 600 units have already been installed in various Dairy Co-operative Societies in Six States and are working satisfactorily.

(c) The Dairy Board is not importing any equipment which is readily manufactured in India. However, for purchases financed by International Development Association Credit the International competitive Bid procedure is followed in which some imports are made. The implementation of projects is under constant review by the High Level Committee constituted for monitoring the overall performance of the dairy development projects. The Oil Seed project is also reviewed. Therefore, the question of enquiry into the entire working of Dairy Board does not arise.