

(c) the period when India would be self-sufficient to meet its domestic requirements?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. C. GEORGE):**

(a) One unit in the Public Sector and three in the Private Sector manufacture scooters. Eleven units, including one in the public sector and another in the State Sector produce agricultural tractors.

(b) and (c) Well over 30,000 tractors are expected to be produced during 1975-76 which will meet the current effective demand.

Regarding scooters, the production is likely to be 1,35,000 Nos. in 1975-76 as against 88,363 Nos during 1974-75 and 3,00,000 Nos. annually by 1978-79 which will meet effective demand in the country.

#### **Dividend rate of M/s. Sharpedge Ltd**

947. **SHRI S. M BANERJEE:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Messrs. Sharpedge Limited, managed and controlled by Hindustan Lever, has maintained a dividend rate of about 70 per cent year after year;

(b) whether the consumer has thus been fleeced on the strength of the international brand name 'Erasmic'; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to safeguard the interests of the public?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA).** (a) M/s. Sharpedge Limited in which M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited have an equity share holding of 47.50 percent have declared

the following rates of dividend over the last four years:

Year	Rate of Dividend
1971	70%
1972	70%
1973	50%
1974	32%

However, payment of dividends for the years 1973 and 1974 is subject to the provisions of the Companies (Restriction on Dividends) Act.

(b) While use of a brand name might have helped them in the sale of their products, Government have no evidence to show that M/s. Sharpedge have fleeced the consumer on the strength of the brand name 'Erasmic'. Their share of total production of Razor Blades in the country during the last three years ranged from 10 per cent to 15 per cent.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

#### **Use of Trade Mark with non-Resident Ownership**

948. **SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the period allowed for the use of Trade Mark with non-resident ownership; and

(b) the period granted initially and what are the conditions for the renewal?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. C. GEORGE):** (a) and (b). The period allowed for the use of Trade Marks with non-resident ownership is initially seven years. It can be extended