

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NANDA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) There is no proposal to investigate into the affairs of the company under the Companies Act.

(e) Does not arise.

Closure of Babcock And Wilcox (India) Ltd., Calcutta

*359. SHRI GANESH GHOSH :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Babcock and Wilcox (India) Limited, Calcutta is threatened with closure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to avert the closure;

(d) whether Government are considering a proposal to investigate into the financial affairs of the company; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER (OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) to (c). On the basis of the balance sheet of the company as at 30th September, 1968, the Regional Director of the Company Law Board at Calcutta issued a show cause notice to the company in July, 1969, under Section 439 (6) of the Companies Act calling upon the company to make its representations, if any, against the prayer made by the Registrar of Companies, West Bengal that the company may be wound up as it was unable to pay its debts in full. The company submitted a representation indicating its difficulties due to recession and sought permission to continue its business. In view of the representation, the Regional Director had not so far issued sanction for initiating action for winding up the company. The Department have no other information about the threatened closure of the company.

सिन्दरी उर्वरक कारखाने को कुले माल डिब्बों की सप्लाई

*360. श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत वर्ष सिन्दरी उर्वरक कारखाने को भारी घाटा उठाना पड़ा था क्योंकि रेलवे ने पर्याप्त संख्या में बंद माल डिब्बे उपलब्ध नहीं किये थे; और

(ख) रेलवे द्वारा यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है कि भविष्य में फिर इस प्रकार की स्थिति उत्पन्न न हो ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री नन्दा) : (क) सिन्दरी उर्वरक कारखाने से उर्वरक के लदान के लिये केवल बन्द माल डिब्बे दिये जाते हैं।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता।

Sale of old and worn out equipment by Napco of Minneapolis to Napco Bevel Gears of India

2201. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report in the Washington Post of the 27th October, 1969 which says that NAPCO of Minneapolis sold old and worn equipment to Napco Bevel Gears of India, really worth 909,000 (Rs. 68.18 lakhs) but sold at 2,807,000 (Rs. 2.1 crores), and, if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(b) whether it is fact that the U. S. Government has filed a suit against the Minneapolis firm, charging it with "deceit, false claims and conspirac";

(c) whether any action has been taken against persons responsible in India for this deal and, if so, their names; and

(d) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) Government have not seen the particular press report referred to. However, Government are aware that report have been appearing in U. S. papers that Messrs Napco Industries Inc. of Minneapolis sold old and worn out machinery to their collaborators in India at a price much higher than the real value of the machinery.

(b) It is understood that the proceedings have been launched by the U. S. Department of Justice.

(c) and (d). Government had also received complaints that the machinery offered by the American collaborators was very old, unsatisfactory etc. etc. After having carefully examined the complaints Government had stipulated in the approval given to the foreign collaboration that arrangements should be made to ensure *Interalia* that the machinery is inspected on arrival in India and any machinery found defective would be replaced by the foreign firm at their own cost. This inspection, however, could not take place since the matter had, in the meantime, gone to the court of law.

Subsequently, on receipt of another complaint that the Indian firm had failed to make timely payment of instalments, of loan and interest to U. S. AID Authorities, the Punjab Government, acting on the mortgage deed executed by the firm took physical possession of the firm on 9-4-1967.

Any further action in the matter has to await disposal of the cases concerning this firm in the law courts.

Ban on Import of Agricultural Implements

2202. **SHRI BABURAO PATEL :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have suddenly banned the import of

various agricultural implements such as tractor harrows and disc ploughs with the result that these implements are now sold at fantastic rates in the blackmarket;

(b) whether it is a fact indigenous of harrows and disc cannot meet manufactures the sudden demand because of the terrific short supply of high carbon steel in their manufacture ;

(c) whether Government would consider the proposal to step up the import of the special steel needed for this purpose till such time as the indigenous supply is fully available; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) The import of agricultural implements is not allowed to Established Importers in terms of the current import policy for April, 1969 to March, 1970. However, there is a provision for import of agricultural implements for Rupee payment countries in the Trade plan and imports are arranged through the state Trading Corporation on the recommendations of the Department of Agriculture. The import of agricultural implements is also allowed under the Gift Scheme of tractors to the agriculturists along with the tractor.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Government have allowed import of Special Steel by Disc Manufacturers to the extent of their requirements.

Shortage of Wagons during Fourth Plan

2203. **SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :**
SHRI RAMACHANDRA
VEERAPPA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there will be shortage of wagons in the later years of the Fourth plan ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet the situation ?