

projects under his Ministry is lying idle in the country ;

(b) if so, the details regarding cost of machinery, names of the projects and the reasons for not utilising the machinery ; and

(c) the action being taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Manufacture of Printing Machinery in H. M. T. with Italian Collaboration

6853. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the value of printing machinery including automatic letter presses, offset processes, paper cutting machines, colour printing and rotary machines imported annually during the last three years with names of the countries of import ;

(b) whether it is a fact that M/s. Societa Nebiolo of Italy has submitted a proposal for manufacturing all types of printing machinery in collaboration with the Hindustan Machine Tools and, if so, its broad proposals ;

(c) how long this proposal will remain "under examination" of his Ministry and when it will be finalized ; and

(d) whether any other foreign proposals have been submitted and, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a)—

Year	Value of imports of different types of printing machines (Rs. in Lakhs)
1966-67	437.06
1967-68	485.50
1968-69	568.56
1969-70	511.55

(April, 1969 to December 1970).

Countries of import include the U. S. A.,

U. K., the Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland, France, Italy, Belgium, Japan, the U. S. S. R., Czechoslovakia, Hungary and the German Democratic Republic.

(b) and (c). A scheme for the manufacture of a wide range of Printing Machinery including Automatic Letter Presses, Offset Presses and Paper Cutting Machines in technical collaboration with Messrs Societa Nebiolo of Italy has been submitted by Hindustan Machine Tools Limited, Bangalore, to the Government. This scheme is presently under examination, and a decision on it is expected to be taken shortly.

(d) A proposal for collaboration with Messrs Linotype and Machinery Ltd. of U. K. has been submitted by the State Industrial and Investment Corporation of Maharashtra to take up manufacture of Web Offset Presses. This proposal is being examined. Messrs Bharat Fritz Werner (P) Ltd., Bangalore, had submitted a scheme for manufacture of Automatic Letter Press printing machines, Folding and Cutting machines and special accessories and spare parts therefor in their existing undertaking at Peenya, Bangalore, in financial and technical collaboration with Messrs. Maschinenfabrik Johannsburg GmbH, West Germany. Taking into account the fact that the items proposed to be manufactured under this scheme were included in the manufacturing programme of Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd., Bangalore, the proposal was not accepted.

Function of Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices

6854. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the functions and the purpose for which the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices has been set up and the names, qualifications, salaries and emoluments of the Chairman and other members of the Bureau ;

(b) the industries which will be investigated and the criteria on which the industries will be selected for investigations ;

(c) whether the recommendations of the Bureau will be advisory or mandatory ; and

(d) if advisory, what is the practical use of setting up the Bureau ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b). A statement is attached.

(c) The recommendations of the Bureau will be advisory.

(d) There is need for thorough-going studies into cost aspects of industries and the efficiency of industrial units, and the advice of the Bureau would assist Government in formulating policies calculated to bring down costs and to increase industrial efficiency.

Statement

1. A copy of the Resolution constituting the Bureau, which sets out in broad terms the functions of the Bureau, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3253/70].

2. Shri N. N. Wanchoo, former Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Industrial Development, Internal Trade and Company Affairs, has been appointed as whole-time Chairman at an overall salary (including pension and pensionary benefits) of Rs. 4000/- per month.

As for the other members of the Bureau, it has been decided that there would, for the moment, be two whole-time members at a

salary of Rs. 2500-2750. Appointments to these posts are yet to be made. In addition, the Director-General of Technical Development, and the Economic Adviser, Ministry of Industrial Development, Internal Trade & Company Affairs, and Ministry of Foreign Trade would be *ex-officio* members of the Bureau.

Export of Bicycles

6855. SHRI BABURAO PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number and value of bicycles exported annually in 1968 and 1969 with names of countries where they were exported ;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of materials like steel, strips, bars, tubes and wire required to manufacture the component parts in a bicycle ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure steady export of bicycles and their components ; and

(e) if no steps have been taken in the matter, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) Export of bicycles in 1968 and 1969 was as follows :—

Year	Total Number	Value (Rs.)	Countries
April 1968 to March 1969	1,17,267	1,38,79,061	Iran, Iraq, Kenya, U. K., U.S.A., Sudan, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Singapore, Nigeria and Zambia.
April 1969 to Decr. 1969	1,03,799	1,19,41,119	

(b) and (c). After a period of recession which started lifting from last year, there is a large spurt in domestic demand of steel products like strips, bars, tubes etc. from the engineering and construction industries as a whole. This led to additional claim on the available supplies. Further Domestic production of the various categories of steel has not kept pace with the increasing demand in the country.

(d) and (e). Government has already decided that in so far as engineering exports including bicycle exports are concerned, the domestic shortage of steel would not be allowed to arrest their growth-rate. In pursuance of this decision, 35,000 tonnes of steel plates, sheets and strips are being imported through Hindustan Steel Limited for supply to export fabricators of engineering goods including