

SHRIMATI V. JEYALAKSHMI: All the required raw materials for the tiny units have been controlled by the Monopoly houses and semi monopoly houses, for example Potassium Chloride by WIMCOs, Blue Match Papers by Oriental Paper Mills, and Birlas, Red Phosphorus by United Phosphorus Company and Star and Excels, Paraffin Wax by PARRY & Co.

MR. SPEAKER: This has been dealt with at great length previously also in the debate.

SHRIMATI V. JEYALAKSHMI: I want to know categorically from the Minister, will he come forward to curb these monopoly houses? We are glad to know that he is going to wind up WIMCOs. But at the same time they are controlling all the raw materials. What steps are you going to take to curb these monopoly houses and how are you going to regularise supply for the tiny units?

Last year KVIC units had demanded Rs. 50/- to issue certificate for their bona fide units. This year they have demanded Rs. 200/-. Last year they had procured 600 bundles. This year they are demanding 1000 bundles, at the lowest rate. At the same time they are not bothered to supply raw material. Will KVIC come forward to start raw material bank to feed KVIC units?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I appreciate the point about KVIC setting up the bank to provide raw material for the units. We shall examine this proposal and whatever can be done in this regard we shall do. In regard to the large houses providing chemicals and paper, etc., as I said earlier, I cannot immediately visualise any measures by which it should be possible for us to decentralise it. But wherever it is possible to decentralise, we shall do so.

SHRI B. RACHAIAH: Has the hon. Minister got made the survey as to the

availability of the raw materials like splints and the blue papers and the chemicals required for the match manufacture? Would you have any dialogue with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest of the State Government to raise soft wood which is required for splints.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Yes, Sir. These discussions are on. We are identifying new areas from where we can procure these raw materials.

Guarantee Period for H.M.T. Tractors

*951. **SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that generally the tractor manufacturers allow a guarantee period of one year to the purchasers against manufacturing defects but the Hindustan Machine Tools allows a guarantee period of only six months on their tractor, Zetor; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard in view of the difficulties experienced by the peasants?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). M/s. H.M.T. Ltd. give a guarantee period of six months on their Zetor tractors and this is generally the period allowed by the major tractor manufactures for their tractors.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: The answer for (b) is silent.

MR. SPEAKER: The answer covers (b) also.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: What action Government has taken?—that has not been answered.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The question is:

"whether Government are aware that generally the tractor manufacturers allow a guarantee period of one year to the purchasers against manufacturing defects but the HMT allows a guarantee period of only six months on their tractor"

The answer is that generally all tractor manufacturers give a guarantee period of six months except two which give a guarantee period of one year.

The the question is:

"if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard in view of the difficulties experienced by the peasants?"

But the general rule is for six months guarantee.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: The general rule in this country or abroad for any machinery is one year's guarantee. If the public sector undertaking made a general rule of giving six months guarantee, then where is the Government?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: This guarantee of either for six months for tractors or 600 working hours has been in existence for a long period of time except in regard to two companies—one is Ichhar Tractors of India and another is Punjab Tractors. Ichhar Tractors company was also giving guarantee for six months and effective from 1st January, they have increased the guarantee period to one year. Punjab Tractors from the time they came into production, have been giving guarantee of one year. The rest of the tractor companies—there are a dozen of them which are in production—have been giving a guarantee of only six months. This has been the prevalent practice. I do not see any complaint that has come until now in a formal way. Maybe there may be grievances generally expressed. I, therefore, presume that this has been accepted as a standard guarantee.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Are they public limited companies or private limited companies? If they are private limited companies, what action is being taken in converting them into public limited companies?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Except one company, Pittie Tools Private Limited which is a private limited company, all others are public limited companies.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The prices of tractors have enormously gone up. In some cases, it is Rs. 70,000/- and the prices are going up. There is now a sort of craze for tractors. The Punjab Tractors which are really manufacturing tractors, have given one year's guarantee. I would like to know from the Minister in view of the fact that there are no proper servicing units for these tractors, whose number is going up and in view of the fact that the peasants have to spend more than a lakh of rupees on the tractor, whether the Government will make it a rule that there will be a proper guarantee of at least one year instead of harping upon the point that there is a general rule of six months? In view of the new situation and also, because the prices of tractors are going up, may I know whether Government will send directions to all manufacturers to make it one year's guarantee in order to ensure proper functioning of these tractors?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I do not believe that the price question is related to the guarantee question. The prices have been fixed over a period of time through following a certain procedure. The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices and the concerned Department of the Finance Ministry have been examining this question and the tractor's prices have been fixed over a period of time.

But in so far as the guarantee periods concerned, the hon. Member has made a point. It is true that there are two

companies which now give a guarantee of one year, one of which has started giving guarantee of one year from the 1st of January this year. I would certainly go into this aspect since two companies are giving one year's guarantee and the rest are giving six months, whether it is possible for the rest also to consider this question.

SHRI ALLURI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE: Sir, it is not true that most of the companies are giving half-year guarantee. I had purchased many tractors and I had one year's guarantee in respect of most of the tractors which are manufactured in the private sector. Here, Sir, actually the selling rate of a tractor is about 300 per cent more than the ex-factory rate. But if the Government is not giving guarantee for one year, how can you expect private companies to give guarantee for more time? Is there any proposal or is there any possibility that the Government comes forward to give a guarantee for one year or more?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The Government does not give the guarantee. There is a public sector undertaking called HMT which is manufacturing tractors. It is in the same business in competition with other private sector tractor manufacturers. If, over a period of time it has been found that a six-months guarantee or a 600-hours guarantee is what is reasonable, and if this has worked over a period of time, in the context of the points made by the hon. Members that there are two firms which are giving a year's guarantee, I shall have this matter examined further.

कपड़े की उपलब्धता

* 954. श्री कमलराम जायसवाल : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि प्रति व्यक्ति प्रति वर्ष कपड़े की उपलब्धता जो वर्ष 1964-

65 में 15.2 मीटर थी, वर्ष 1977-78 में कम हो कर 11.8 मीटर रह गई है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) क्या प्रति व्यक्ति प्रति वर्ष कपड़े की उपलब्धता बढ़ाने का कोई ठोस प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो योजना के अन्तर्गत वर्ष 1979-80, 1980-81, 1981-82 और 1982-83 के दौरान प्रति व्यक्ति कपड़े की उपलब्धता का निर्धारित अनुमान क्या लगाया गया है ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a): The per capita availability has declined from 18.85 metres in 1964 to 13.42 metres in 1977.

(b) The decline has taken place due to various contributory factors such as stagnant effective demand for textiles increased durability on account of increased use of synthetic fibres and changes in consumer preference leading to lesser cloth consumption.

(c) and (d). According to the Working Group on Textiles the per capita demand for cloth is expected to reach 14.62 metres by 1982-83. Separate year-wise breakup has not been set.

श्री कमलराम जायसवाल : मान्यवर अध्यक्ष जी, मंत्री जी ने जो जवाब दिया है उस से एक चीज यह साफ हो गयी है कि पिछले 12-13 साल में कपड़े की उपलब्धता साढ़े तीन मीटर घट गयी है। पहले पाँच वर्षों में जब कि छठी पंचवर्षीय योजना चल रही थी तो प्रति वर्ष प्रति व्यक्ति उस उपलब्धता को पाना तो दूर रहा, उस में सवा दो मीटर की कमी रही। इस कमी के कारण बतलाये गये हैं कि लोगों की पसन्द