

AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 848 on the 30th June, 1967 and state :

(a) whether adequate measures have since been taken to start the manufacture of consumer goods in the public sector;

(b) if, so the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the production will start?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F.A. AHMED): (a) to (c). Although a final view on the likely provision in the Fourth Five-Year Plan for the consumer goods Industries and the nature of schemes that would be included in the public sector is yet to emerge, the implementation of the continuing schemes is progressing. The synthetic drug plant at Sanatnagar and the antibiotics plants at Rishikesh have gone into production. The ophthalmic glass project and the security paper mills are in a fairly advanced stage of completion. Two cement plants have been taken up for construction by the Cement Corporation of India. Hindustan Photo Films, Ootacamund commenced production of Cine Film Positive (Black and white) and X-Ray Films in January, 1967. Active steps are being taken to set up additional capacity for cement paper and newsprint in the Public Sector.

IMPORT OF SYNTHETIC YARN

*848. **DR. RANEN SEN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the association of man-made fibre industry has criticised Government's policy on import of synthetic yarn;

(b) if so, what are the points of criticism; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Association of Man-made Fibre Industry have pointed out that Government ought to have made a proper and realistic assessment of the requirement of synthetic (nylon) yarn needed by the Man-made fibre weaving industry based on the number of powerlooms actually working over a period of time and that huge imports of nylon yarn of the order of Rs. 33 crores are bound to

disrupt the economy of the indigenous fibre and yarn producing industry.

(c) The criticism is not justified as the total demand is estimated at 10 million Kgs. while the production in the country comes to about 2.4 million Kgs.

NEW FACTORIES IN RAJASTHAN

*849. **SHRI D. N. PATODIA:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan have requested the Central Government for the installation of a scooter factory, a heavy electrical plant and two fertiliser factories in the State;

(b) if so, when the requests were received;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, when it is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F.A. AHMED): (a) and (b). Government have not received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for establishing heavy electrical plant of fertiliser factories in that State. An application for the establishment of a factory in Rajasthan for the manufacture of scooters was received from the Government of Rajasthan (State Enterprises Department) Jaipur on the 30th August, 1965.

(c) Not yet, Sir.

(d) A final decision on all pending applications for the manufacture of scooters including the one received from the Government of Rajasthan is likely to be taken by the middle of March, 1968.

ABOLITION OF RAILWAY BOARD

*853. **SHRI RABI RAY:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the public demand to do away with the Railway Board; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) and (b). There have been suggestions by some Honourable Members in the Parliament to