

### Recession in Industry

- \*410. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL :  
SHRI HARDYAL DEVGUN :  
SHRI D. C. SHARMA :

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

(a) the extent to which Government have been able to overcome the recession in industries which started last year, and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to boost up the industries ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F.A. AHMED) : (a) The industrial output in the country showed distinct signs of recovery towards the end of 1968. The general index of Industrial Production with 1960=100 increased from 151 in 1967 to 161 during the 3rd quarter of 1968, thus recording a rise of 6.7 per cent. The engineering industry which was affected more due to the recessionary trends, also showed an appreciable improvement during the year 1968-69. The production during 1968 in the engineering industry recorded a rise of 4.8 per cent as compared to the year 1967. It is expected that as a result of the various measures being taken, industrial production will improve further.

(b) The more important steps taken for mitigating the effects of recession include the review of various developmental programmes with a view to reviving the demand of capital goods to the extent possible; encouraging diversification in the manufacturing programme of the affected industries; emphasis on the development of regular export markets through stronger marketing structures both for the public and private sectors; banning of imports to the extent the indigenous capacity could meet the requirements; taking of selective credit measures for reviving home demand for engineering products; efforts by the concerned authorities to maintain uninterrupted power supplies to the extent possible; progressive delicensing of a number of industries; removal of bottlenecks and grant of incentives as far as

practicable with a view to increasing the capability for export and thereby offsetting the effect of fall in domestic demand as much as possible, and holding of dialogues between project authorities on the one hand and all likely manufactureres on the other, in order to ensure that no plant, machinery and equipment which could be got manufactured in the country, is allowed to be imported.

### M/s. Bharat Barrel and Drum Manufacturing Co.

\*411. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 715 on the 27th August, 1968 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bitumen Drum Plant of M/s. Bharat Barrel and Drum Mfg., Co., (Pvt.) Ltd. was inspected by an officer of DGTD sometime in 1964 to assess its capacity;

(b) if so, what was the capacity assessed by the officer;

(c) whether Government have since informed the assessed capacity of their Bitumen Drum Plant to the firm and the Joint Plant Committee,

(d) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(e) whether Government would lay on the Table of the House a copy of the assessment report of their said Bitumen Drum Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F.A. AHMED) : (a) to (d). As already explained in reply to parts (c) and (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1652 on the 30th July, 1968, the licensed capacity of this Company for the manufacture of Bitumen Drums is 7,84,000 Nos. per annum on single shift. An inspection of their factory for the purpose of assessment of capacity of their Bitumen Drum Plant was made in 1964, but the findings in respect of the assessment have not been considered for acceptance, as in the meantime, the report of technical officers arising out of the general assessment made during 1965 in respect to the manufacture of oil barrels was received, and certain

matters therein needed further examination. The Company was also informed that no revision of capacity was possible for bitumen drums. The Joint Plant Committee have been informed of the licensed capacity of the firm for bitumen drums and also the production of bitumen drums reported by the firm during 1966.

(e) No. Sir.

\*412. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the poor financial performance of the Premier Automobiles despite the high prices of their cars ;

(b) whether in view of this poor performance, Government intend to order special audit into the affairs of the Company under the Company Law ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not ordering this inquiry ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) The financial state of the company has been looked into by the Company Law Board.

(b) and (c). The books of Accounts of the company were inspected in 1966 under Section 209 (4) of the Companies Act, 1956. The inspection did not disclose any circumstances warranting special audit.

#### Underground Railway in Madras

\*413. Dr. SUSHILA NAYAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any final decision has since been taken by Government for laying an underground Railway system in Madras ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (Dr. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Development of Railways during Fourth Plan Period

\*414. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :  
SHRI J. M. BISWAS :  
SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR :  
DR. RANEN SEN :  
SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fourth Plan proposals for the development of Railways have been finalised;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the total outlay proposed for Railways' Fourth Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) to (c). The Fourth Five-Year Plan proposals for the development of Railways including the financial outlay are being finalised in consultation with the Planning Commission.

#### Production of Tractors

\*415. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :  
SHRI LOBO PRABHU :

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

(a) whether the production of tractors in India is much less than the demand;

(b) if so, what is the estimated local production for the current year and what is the estimated number of tractors imported; and

(c) whether steps have been taken to achieve self-sufficiency in tractors during the Fourth Plan ?

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

(b) The indigenous production of tractors during 1968-69 is likely to be about 15,000 nos. Arrangements for the import of 15,000 tractors during 1968-69 have also been made.

(c) Several schemes have been received for the establishment of new units for the manufacture of wheeled agricultural trac-