

M/s. Hind Galvanising and Engineering Co. (P) Ltd.

*865. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 192 on the 3rd March, 1970 regarding M/s. Hind Galvanising and Engineering Co. (P) Ltd. and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have, on many occasions in the past, accepted the position that due to a great scarcity of steel sheets, the capacities of the existing units in the Drum and Barrel industry could not be fully utilised; and

(b) if so, how Government could, in the first instance, recognise a fresh capacity of M/s. Hind Galvanising and Engineering Co. (P) Ltd. during the pendency of the industry on the banned list and also allocate steel sheets to them, which were then in short supply thus resulting in aggravation of further difficulties of the existing units?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b). The general shortage of steel sheets which has been affecting the steel consuming industries including drum and barrel industries is known. But the circumstances in which the capacity of M/s. Hind Galvanising and Engineering Co. (P) Ltd. for the manufacture of oil barrels was recognised have already been explained in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 250 on the 24th November, 1967. Attention is also invited to pages 42-52 of the 85th Report of the Estimates Committee presented to the Lok Sabha on the 30th April, 1969.

Diversification of Production by H.M.T.

*866. SHRI R. K. BIRLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Machine Tools has started manufacturing such items which are in much demand in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details of such items;

(c) the details of items with foreign exchange earnings which have been exported to foreign countries, country-wise, during the last one year;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Machine Tools has undertaken a phased programme of diversification outside the field of machine tools, for home consumption; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and to what extent the diversification programme has improved import substitution in these items?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b). Hindustan Machine Tools Limited are manufacturing machine tools and wrist watches. The Company is exporting General Purpose Machines such as Lathes, Radial Drills, Grinding Machines, Turret Lathes and Milling Machines. The existing range of products of the Company are being modified to suit the requirements of individual markets abroad. Besides, the Company is also developing machine tool items for export such as Milling Machines Model MITR, Lathes Model LT20, Chucker, Mini Chucker, Revised version of E2 Electric Milling Machines, Turret and Production Lathes L22 series and Cylindrical Grinding Machines.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) and (e). The Company has plans to diversify its line of production by taking up manufacture of Printing Machinery and Agricultural Tractors. 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 the Company to the Government. The Company has also submitted a proposal to take up manufacture of 20 H.P. tractors for a capacity of 12,000 numbers per annum in their unit at Pinjore (Haryana). These proposals are under consideration of the Government. The question of improvement in import substitution in these items will arise after the proposals are approved by the Government and implemented by the Company.