

Export Business of Hindustan Steel Ltd.

*258. Shri S. N. Maikh:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Steel Ltd. is losing a considerable amount of export business;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) No, Sir.

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

Manufacture of Tractors

*259. Shri E. S. Vidyarthi: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made as to the number of tractors required in the country to push up production of foodgrains; and

(b) the facilities made available to the manufacturers of tractors to meet the requirement, and thus avoid import of tractors from foreign countries?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) Yes, Sir, it has been assessed that a total of 150,000 tractors will be required over the Fourth Five Year Plan period for achieving the targeted agricultural output.

(b) To enable the existing manufacturing units to maximise production of tractors, the industry has been included in the list of priority industries and foreign exchange to the full extent of the current manufacturing capacity of the units has been allocated. Even so, the production during 1987-88 may fall short of the assessed requirements and, therefore, some imports may be unavoidable.

Cotton Spinning Units

*260. Shri Madhu Limaye:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri George Fernandes:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) when the recently sanctioned 10 cotton spinning units in the private sector will go into production;

(b) whether any mixed units (composite) have been sanctioned in the private sector during this period;

(c) the number of composite and spinning units in the co-operative sector during the Third Five Year Plan;

(d) how many of these have gone into production; and

(e) the targets for both types of units in private and co-operative sectors during the Fourth Plan period?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) None of these units has made any progress.

(b) Three mixed (composite) units were licensed.

(c) and (d). 47 licences for co-operative spinning mills only were licensed out of which 12 units have gone into production.

(e) It is estimated that about 325 million spindles would be set up in the co-operative sector and 1.75 million spindles and 20,000 looms in the private sector during the Fourth Five Year Plan.

Engineering Industries

*261. Dr. Karni Singh:
Shrimati Nirlep Kaur:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the problems facing the engineering industries such