

from the Government quota (category-wise); and

(b) the time by which the present list is likely to be exhausted?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED):

(a) The total number of applications for allotment of Lambretta and Vespa scooters from various categories of officers pending in the Ministry of Industrial Development and Company Affairs is as under:

Lambretta scooters	7,900 Nos.
Vespa Scooters	15,800 Nos.

(b) With the special quota presently fixed for the purpose, all the officers whose names are included in the waiting lists are likely to get allotment of scooters within the next five years or so. As, however, the production of scooters is going up from year to year, it will be possible to increase the special quota also proportionately and in that case the waiting lists will be cleared in a short period.

Bookings for Lambretta Scooters

2237. SHRIMATI NIRLEP KAUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Amba Motors Ltd. of Jhandewallan, New Delhi, started booking of Lambretta Scooters with effect from April, 1967, but so far they have not allotted a single scooters; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the average quota of this firm per quarter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED):

(a) and (b). M/s. Amba Motors, New Delhi, started book of orders for Lambretta scooters with effect from the 1st April, 1967. They are getting from the manufacturers, on an average, 50

scooters per quarter. However, in accordance with the instructions issued by the Controller of Scooters, they are supplying these scooters against the orders booked by the other dealer in Delhi, M/s. Allied Motors, New Delhi prior to the 1st April, 1967. It is only after completing delivery against all the earlier orders that they will start delivery of scooters against orders booked by themselves.

Quality of Vespa Scooters

2238. SHRIMATI NIRLEP KAUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quality of Vespa scooter has deteriorated whereas the price has increased;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to keep a check on the quality;

(c) what was the price of the scooter when it was introduced and what is the price at present; and

(d) the reasons for such a steep increase when the quality has deteriorated?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED):

(a) and (b). A few complaints have been received from the customers about defects in their Vespa scooters. As and when such complaints are received, they are taken up with the manufacturers for remedial action. In addition, the various recommendations made by the Motor Car Quality Enquiry Committee on improving the quality of cars, most of which are applicable to scooter industry, have also been communicated to scooter manufacturers and they, and through them, their dealers, have been advised to implement the various recommendations of the Committee.

(c) The ex-factory retail prices of Vespa Scooters (exclusive of excise duty and surcharge thereon) in 1966

and now, as approved by Government, are as under:—

Selling price in 1960	Present selling price
Rs. 1964 -	Rs. 2402 -

(d) The increases allowed in the price of this make of scooter from time to time are due to increases in Government levies, increases in price of tyres and tubes and increases in costs due to substitution of imported components by indigenous components.

Booking of Scooters in Delhi

2239. SHRIMATI NIRLEP KAUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scooters of various types booked with different dealers in Delhi as on the 31st October, 1968;

(b) the average quota of different dealers for different types of scooters; and

(c) the approximate time each dealer will take in disposing of the entire booking?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED):

(a) The number of orders for scooters pending with the various dealers in Delhi as on the 31st October, 1968, is as under:—

- (i) for Lambretta scooter 9,231 Nos.
- (ii) for Vespa scooter 30,137 Nos.
- (iii) for Fantabulus scooter 3 Nos.

(b) The average quota of Vespa scooters for the Delhi dealers for sale against the normal bookings is about 670 Nos. per quarter. Lambretta dealers in Delhi get an average quarterly quota of about 183 scooters. In the case of Fantabulus scooter, the dealer in Delhi gets his full requirements.

(c) As the current rate of supply it will take about 11 to 12 years for clearing all the outstanding orders for Vespa scooters and about 10 years for Lambretta scooters. The production of scooters is, however, going up rapidly and the supply position is expected to improve from year to year.

Supply of Billets

2240. SHRI E. K. NAYANAR: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of supply of raw materials (billets) to the only Steel Re-Rolling Mill in Kerala i.e., Western India Steel Company, Calicut; and

(b) if so, steps Government have taken to supply more billets to this Company?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) and (b). At present, there is a shortage of billets in the country as a whole. It is not peculiar to any one Unit situated in a particular region. Steps are being taken to make a re-assessment of the demand and a system will be evolved for equitable distribution of billets after taking into account all relevant considerations such as requirements of exports, regional imbalances and types of products rolled from billets.

Confirmation of Employees in Olavakkot Division (Kerala)

2241. SHRI E. K. NAYANAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are some employees in the Railway Engineering Department, Olavakkot Division (Kerala State) who have not been confirmed even after putting in more than five years' service; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) and