

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY:
SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA:
SHRI K. B. CHETTRI:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pathak Committee has recommended the merger of Heavy Electricals Ltd., and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.;

(b) whether Government have accepted the recommendations; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have approved the merger and issued the draft orders in terms of the Company Law Regulations. The final order is expected to be issued by the first week of March, 1974.

Diversification of Production in HAL

420. SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI:

SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:

SHRIMATI RATHNA BAI SREENISAVA RAO:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. propose to diversify its production programme;

(b) if so, in what manner; and

(c) the extent to which its capacity is at present under-utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) HAL having been

specifically set up and equipped to manufacture different types of aircraft, aero-engines and associated equipment, the scope for diversification is limited. Within these limitations, however, attempts have been and are being made to take on outside jobs on a selective basis with a view to improve HAL's turn-over and profitability, the main considerations in these cases being availability of capacity and specialised equipment with HAL or expertise not readily available elsewhere. Thus the Foundry & Forge at Bangalore and Koraput have been undertaking manufacture of castings and forgings for Ordnance Factories, Bharat Earth Movers, etc. HAL has undertaken jobs for the Indian Space Research Organisation and the Garden Reach Workshops Ltd. HAL is also selling know-how developed by it for TV sets and also manufacturers components of TV sets.

(c) By and large the capacity of HAL is being utilised to the extent technically feasible except in the MIG Complex where surplus machine capacity exists in certain areas for want of adequate work load. The question of utilisation of surplus capacity is under continuous study by HAL.

Soviet assistance for development of mines

421. SHRIMATI SUSHILA

SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:

SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER:

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI:

SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO:

SHRI DEBANANDA AMAT:

SHRI M. K. MOHTA:

SHRI O. P. TYAGI:

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:

SHRI K. C. PANDA:

SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA:

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state: