

Government of Bangladesh on 29th January 1973 to enable the Bangladesh Government to buy 150 tniss from India.

(b) The total amount of the credit is Rs. 13,322,000/-which carries an interest of 6% per annum. The principal amount of the loan is repayable in 15 years, including a grace period of 5 years, in equal semiannual instalments payable on 30th June and 31st December each year commencing from 30th June, 1978.]

#### **MINIMUM WAGE FOR AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS**

617. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAH A : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to introduce minimum wage for Agricultural Labourers throughout the country on a uniform basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKAT-SWAMY): (a) and (b) The State Governments are the 'appropriate Governments' under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 in respect of the bulk of employment in Agriculture. They have been advised to take steps to secure a reasonable wage for agricultural workers. Conditions being different from place to place, it has to be further examined to what extent uniformity in wage can be achieved throughout the country.

#### **BRASS AND BELL METAL INDUSTRY**

695. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYA-NARAYANA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the brass and bell metal Industry is on the way to gradual extinction; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **SETUP OF AN ELECTRIC BULB INDUSTRY**

703. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindustan Tools propose to establish an integrated factory to manufacture machines for the electric bulb industry;

(b) if so, the place where the factory will be established;

(c) what other items this factory will manufacture; and

(d) the extent to which this factory will help in saving the foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) to (d) M/s. Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd., have a tentative proposal to set up manufacture of lamps and lamp making machinery in their plant at Hyderabad. A detailed project report is awaited from the H. M. T.

#### **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WORK IN BHARAT ELECTRONICS**

747. SHRI G. R. PATIL :

SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the research and development work being done in the Bharat Electronics Ltd., is very inadequate;

(b) if so, what measures are proposed to remedy the situation; and

(c) what other professional electronics equipment is proposed to be manufactured to cope with the fast changes taking place in the electronics technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) The research and development work now being done by Bharat Electronics Ltd. is adequate.

(b) and (c) A statement showing the present progress and the future plans is placed on the Table of the House.

Transferred from the 9th May, 1973. :-  
Transferred from the 10th May, 1973.