

on 23rd April, 1971, normalcy was restored and the strike was withdrawn.

#### PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS

\* 145. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE / कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Punjab Government have requested the Central Government to take steps to check the growing prices of agricultural inputs in India and bring them down to the level prevailing in 1969 :

(b) the details of the communication received from the Punjab Government in this regard : and

(c) the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/ कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

(a) The communication in question does not appear to have been received. It is true that the price of certain inputs have risen marginally during 1970-71 as compared to 1969-70 according to the All India index numbers of important agricultural inputs, except diesel oil. However, the Government reduced the prices of popular varieties of imported fertilisers during 1969-70 and 1970-71. The price of a particular variety of ammonium sulphate was reduced by Rs. 100/- per M. T. during 1969-70. Recently, the price of urea has been reduced by Rs. 20/- per M. T. with effect from 4.3.1971. There is also a downward trend in prices of seeds of established varieties.

(b) and (c) In view of the answer to part (a), the question does not arise.

\* 146. [ *Transferred to the 3rd June, 1971* ]

#### STUDY INTO THE WORKING OF HINDUSTAN STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING CORPORATION

\* 147. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES / इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently ordered a thorough study into the working of the Hindustan Steel Limited and the Heavy Engineering Corporation ;

(b) if so, the objectives of such a study :

(c) whether similar studies into the working of these Corporations were made in the past also : and

(d) if so, the major items on which the new study is likely to throw light?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES / इस्पात और खान मंत्री (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

D. M. S. MILK

\* 148. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE / कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the quality of the milk supplied by the Delhi Milk Scheme has of late deteriorated ; and