

Limited in this regard; and if so, for what quantity; and

(d) how much of it has already been supplied to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1,026 tonnes of different categories.

(c) and (d) The procedure for obtaining these categories and for getting priority in despatch has been explained to the University.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF STEEL INDUSTRY

1544. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a meeting between the representatives of the public and private sector steel plants and research organizations and the officials of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, was held recently in New Delhi to consider steps for development of the steel industry;

(b) if so, what decision have been taken in the meeting;

(c) whether any measures have been suggested to double the steel production in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto;

(e) whether the said committee had gone into the cost of production of various plants; and

(f) if so, what is the average cost of production per ton of steel produced by the public sector undertaking and that of the private sector?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The discussions at the meeting underlined the urgent need to set up a Central Board for coordinating the work of various existing research and development units and those which may be set up in future for further development of the Iron and Steel Industry. This Board would create facilities for further development of technical know-how for the fulfilment of the Iron and Steel Programme in the Fourth and subsequent Plan periods and recommend from time to time various steps to increase productivity and reduce cost of operation of Steel Plants, as well as advise on economic construction of new Steel Plants. It was also felt that there should be a Central Documentation and Technical Information Centre forming part of the Board to collect and disseminate technical information. An Expert Committee has been constituted for the preparation of a blue print for the Board.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### LICENSING OF RAW MATERIAL IMPORTS

1545. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: SHRI INDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated guidelines for the licensing of raw material imports during 1970-71;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up two committees for scrutinizing applications for industrial licences;

(d) if so, when they are likely to be set up; and