

these tractors is to be completed within the Calendar year 1969.

- (ii) The tractors are being imported on deferred payment terms under which payment is to be made in Indian rupees in accordance with the Protocol dated 7-1-66 signed between the Government of India and the Government of USSR. The period of the payment of instalments is eight years.

- (iii) The tractors would be distributed through the State Agro Industries Corporation and/or agencies as nominated by the Ministry of Food & Agriculture.

(c) A firm in the private sector proposes to enter into financial and technical collaboration with Organisations in USSR for the manufacture of DT-14B tractors. Details of this scheme of collaboration are under Government's examination.

INDUSTRIES IN KASHMIR

321. SHRI SYED HUSSAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and nature of new industries started in Kashmir during the last five years;

(b) whether the industrial development of the State is proceeding according to schedule;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the new industries proposed to be set up in public and private sectors in the near future in Jammu and Kashmir State ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) A large part of the development in the industrial sector, in the State of Jammu and Kashmir in the past, has related to organizing and developing of traditional cottage and handicraft industries like carpet-making, wood-work, silken and woollen textiles etc. However, during the last five years, new important units under the large and medium industries commissioned in the

State sector are : a 60 tonnes/day cement factory at Wuyan; a lignite briquetting plant at Shalteng; a spinning mill with a capacity of 1200 spindles; a brick and tile factory and establishment of Kalakote Coal Mines.

(b) and (c) The provisions for outlays on Industries and Mining during the Third Plan and the last three annual plan periods have not been fully utilised by the State Government. The reasons for this are shortage of electric power, transportation difficulties and relatively higher cost of fuel to be brought from outside the State.

(d) The State Government have submitted some proposals for industrial development during the Fourth Plan in the State sector. The schemes to be included in the Fourth Five Year Plan are, however, yet to be finalised.

PURCHASE OF FIAT CARS BY RUMANIA

322. SHRI SYED HUSSAIN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rumania have placed any order with the Government of India for the purchase of Fiat Cars; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the order ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) and (b) The Government of Rumania has shown interest in the purchase of Fiat cars and the S.T.C. is processing the enquiry further.

BHADRACHALAM-KOVVUR LINE

323. SHRI M. V. BHADRAM :
SHRI YELLA REDDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1001 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th December, 1968 and state :

(a) whether the survey work on the Bhadrachalam-Kovvur line has since been completed and the report received;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the time by when the survey report is likely to be received by Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) The work on updating the earlier survey report of the Bhadrachalam Road-Kovvur line has not yet been completed.

(b) A decision on the construction of this line will be taken after the revised report is received and examined by the Railway Board.

(c) The survey report is likely to be received by the Railway Board by about the middle of this year.

RAW JUTE IMPORTED DURING 1968

324. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of raw jute imported during the year 1968; and

(b) the amount of the foreign exchange involved thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) and (b) Raw jute and mesta imports during 1968 were of the order of 203,000 bales valued at Rs. 701 lakhs.

RISE IN PRICES OF RAW JUTE AND JUTE GOODS

325. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN :
SHRI KRISHAN KANT :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of raw jute and jute goods have risen abnormally;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative whether Government have evaluated the causes for this sudden spurt in prices;

(c) if so, the measures taken to check this rise in prices; and

(d) how far these measures have met with success?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rise in prices has been due to the exceptionally poor jute and mesta crop this season, and a world shortage of jute.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the house. [See below].

(d) These measures have, to some extent, arrested the otherwise rising tendency.

STATEMENT

Measures taken to arrest the rise in prices of Jute and Jute goods

1. Ceiling and margins for futures trading for hessians and sackings were fixed from time to time.
2. A Committee consisting of Jute Commissioner and representatives of jute industry and other interests was formed to scrutinise applications made to it by the Jute and Jute Goods Buffer Stock Association for imports of raw jute. So far import of 540,020 bales of jute has been allowed on the recommendations of this Committee.
3. It was decided to relate production of finished goods on a planned basis to the availability of raw material and needs and requirements of both domestic and overseas consumption.
4. The total quantity of jute available for distribution among the mills each month is being allocated to the mills by the Jute Commissioner in proportion to their production of jute goods during the period 1st July, 1967 to 30th June, 1968 with effect from November, 1968 onwards except in regard to carpet backing.
5. The Jute Commissioner has been delegated powers to regulate pro-