

factory at Ajmer to speed up the construction work;

(b) if so, whether any progress has been made during the last three months for speeding up the construction of the factory; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) to (c) As no specific instructions are issued in taking up such projects, the questions do not arise.

#### **AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS' DEMANDS**

\*403. SHRI M. S. OBEROI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Automobile manufacturers have asked the Government for certain immediate reliefs as a result of which they would be able to reduce the prices of the commercial vehicles to a great extent; and

(b) if so, the nature of the demands of the Automobile manufacturers and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The automobile manufacturers have requested for reduction in excise duty on finished vehicles by 50 per cent and for abolition of excise duty on tyres supplied as original equipment to the vehicle manufacturers. The request of the manufacturers is under consideration in the Ministry of Finance.

#### **PRICES OF BILLET\***

\*404. SHRI KESAVAN (THAZHAVA): SHRI NIREN GHOSH-SYED NAUSHER ALL SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: SHRI ARAVINDAKSHAN KAIMAL:

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

(a) whether he gave an assurance in the last meeting of Iron and Steel Advisory Committee that Joint Plant Committee would review the position and bring down the prices of billet;

(b) if so, whether the Joint Plant Committee has done so;

(c) if answer to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **हैवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स लिमिटेड भोपाल में लगाई गई विदेशी पूंजी तथा भारतीय पूंजी**

\*405 श्री निरंजन वर्मा: क्या औद्योगिक विकास तथा समवाय कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1966 के अन्त तक हैवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स फैक्टरी, भोपाल में कितनी विदेशी पूंजी तथा भारतीय पूंजी लगाई गई ;

(ख) फैक्टरी में लगाई गई विदेशी पूंजी पर क्या लाभ दिए गए हैं; और

(ग) 1965 तथा 1966 के दौरान लाभों के रूप में कितना धन विदेशों को गया?