

are private limited companies. They are not Government companies.

Coming to the first part of the question, Sir, relating to income-tax concessions, if a person has already been assessed under the local taxation laws in force in the Union Territories before 1-4-63, in respect of the calendar year 1962, he is not liable to tax on such income under the Income-tax Act for the assessment year 1963-64. Similarly, Sir, the tax chargeable under the Income-tax Act on the income qualifying for the concessions for the six assessment years from 1964-65 to 1969-70 is required to be reduced by an amount calculated at certain percentages therefor specified for each year. The effect of this reduction is separately shown.

Next, Sir, tax holiday is given for certain hotels so that they will adopt the laws slowly. Even these concessions will come to an end in the assessment year 1970-71.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I ask the Minister what is the total authorised capital involved in these public and private undertakings in these years?

SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY: There are no public undertakings, Sir. As far as the capital is concerned, if the hon'ble Member puts a separate question, I will answer.

SHRI D. THENGARI: May I know, Sir, if the companies that are given concessions are completely Indian or are there foreign companies also?

SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY: There are 21 companies which have been given concessions. These are mixed companies, Sir.

EXTENSION OF BROAD GAUGE LINE FROM RENIGUNTA TO TLRUPATHI

"174. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to extend the broad gauge line from Renigunta to Tirupathi; and

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH): (a) Construction of a broad gauge line from Renigunta to Tirupathi has been approved and the work has been included in the Budget for 1967-68.

(b) The work is likely to cost about Rs. 30 lakhs.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I know, Sir, whether the new broad gauge line will go along the same alignment as the metre gauge or is it going to be a mixed gauge?

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH: It will go on the same alignment because this will be a continuation of the M.G. section which has already been converted into broad gauge line, and the same will be extended up to Tirupathi East.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I know, Sir, when the work will be started? How long will it take to start and complete the work?

SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH: Preliminary work has already been taken up. I think the entire work will be completed within about two or three years' time.

SHRI V. V. RAMASWAMY: May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal to convert the metre gauge section from Tiruchirapalli to Tuticorin on the Southern Railway into broad gauge? If it is so, what is the stage at which it stands?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: This relates to a separate sector altogether. If the hon'ble Member can put a separate question, I will try to answer.

SHRI A. D. MANI: There is heavy passenger traffic between Madras and Tirupathi. May I know, Sir, if it is proposed to run a through train when this broad gauge is open, or will there at least be some carriages to enable passengers to go from Madras to Tirupathi direct without getting down at Renigunta?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: It is true that there is very heavy passenger traffic in the sector. The arrangement of train timings and running through trains would be kept in view when the new time-table is drawn up.

STEEL BILLET PLANT AT MADRAS

*175. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposed steel billet plant to be set up at Arkonam, Madras State with Soviet collaboration will be in the private or public sector;
- (b) what will be its capacity of production;
- (c) when will it be commissioned; and
- (d) what are the terms of collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. M. CHANNA REDDY): (a) to (c) The project, which will have an ultimate annual capacity of 100,000 tonnes, will be implemented by the Madras State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.—a Government of Madras undertaking. It is expected to be commissioned in about 18 months.

(d) The State Government has informed that collaboration teams include preparation of technical

documentation, supply of equipment not available in the country, technical assistance during erection and providing the guaranteed outputs and performance and training the Indian technicians in the USSR; these are the items of work to be done by the Russian agency. Supply of equipment will be on deferred payment terms under the Trade Agreement between India and USSR.

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: May I know, Sir, what would be the estimated employment potential of that plant at the end?

DR. M. CHANNA REDDY: Sir, actual figures are not available. But it would be of the order of about 2,000 subject to assessment.

IMPORT LICENCES FOR IMPORT OF RAW MATERIALS

*176. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount of import licences given for import of raw materials since devaluation; and
- (b) what are the important items for which import licences were given?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Statistics relating to import of raw materials are not maintained separately. The total value of Actual Users licences issued from 6-6-1966 to 31-1-1967 for raw material, spares and components was of the order of Rs. 925 crores.

(b) Some of the more important items of raw materials licensed are: —

- (1) Non-Ferrous Metals.
- (2) Copra.
- (3) Crude Rubber including Synthetic Rubber.
- (4) Paper, Pulp and Newsprint.
- (5) Textile Fibres.