

period of ten years will be subject to the prior approval of the Government of India.

(b) The proposal was approved in consultation with the Ministry of Education in furtherance of their policy to make scientific, technical and other standard text books available to students in Indian Educational Institutions at reasonable prices instead of having to import such books at high cost, and with a view to build up an export market for such books.

MACHINERY LYING IN THE OPEN AT OKHLA

*150. SHRI BABUBHAI CHINAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that machinery imported by Government, has been lying unallocated to parties concerned for several months at the Okhla Industrial Estate;

(b) whether the machinery has been lying in the open and if so, whether any damage has been caused thereby; and

(c) whether Government propose to construct godowns to stock the machinery until it is allocated to the parties concerned?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) No, Sir. Government do not import machinery for allocation to parties intending to set up Small Scale Industries in Industrial Estates. National Small Industries Corporation only provides facilities to small scale industrial units of acquiring machinery on hire purchase basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

PRICES OF JAMNAGAR SEA SALT

*153. SHRI KAMTA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of production of sea salt (crushed) per ton at Jamnagar in Gujarat State;

(b) the selling rate of crushed sea salt wagon delivery (excluding the price of gunny bags) charged by the manufacturers from the local traders;

(c) whether the selling price for the salt (in bulk) per ton f.o.r. Jamnagar is different for different destinations;

(d) whether it is a fact that the profit of the manufacturers of sea salt in the West Coast for wagon delivery ranges between 200 to 300 per cent.; and

(e) if so, what measures Government propose to adopt to check such high prices being charged by the manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) to (e) Information required is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

DEVELOPMENT OF SUNDARBANS

*154. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission have asked for a report from the Government of West Bengal for the Development of Sundarbans; and

(b) what are the broad features of the proposed development programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT AND FOR PLANNING (SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN): (a) and (b) Progress on the develop-