

**PROCESSING OF IMPORT APPLICATIONS FOR STEEL FOR SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY**

\*301. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during August-September, 1961, the procedure for processing import applications for steel for small scale industry was stream-lined and the Development Commissioner for Small Scale Industry was authorised to sponsor such applications;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Directors of Industries in various States were allotted quotas of foreign exchange within which they could recommend import licences for small scale industry;

(c) how the schemes has worked in 1961; and

(d) in how many cases the quotas recommended by Directors of Industries were reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI C. SUB-RAMANIAM) : (a) to (d) Since April-September, 1961, bulk foreign exchange is being placed at the disposal of the Development Commissioner, Small-Scale Industries for sponsoring the requirements of steel of small-scale units. The Development Commissioner, S.S.I, distributes this allocation amongst the various State Directors of Industries. The recommendations made by the Directors of Industries are accepted and licensed in full by Licensing Authorities. No cut is made. This scheme has so far worked satisfactorily.

**NEW PRIZE BONDS SCHEME**

\*302. SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee set up by the National Savings Advisory Council has recommended the introduction of a new prize bonds scheme; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision on this and other recommendations made by the Committee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations made by the Committee have broadly been accepted. The new scheme is expected to be introduced with effect from 1st January, 1963.

**PRODUCTION OF STEEL IN PUBLIC SECTOR**

\*303. SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to reduce the gap between installed capacity and actual production of steel in the public sector; and

(b) the results achieved so far in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY INDUSTRIES (SHRI C. SUB-RAMANIAM) : (a) and (b) The gap between installed capacity and actual production of steel in the public sector has been due to operational difficulties in the initial stages, particularly at Rourkela. The functioning of the Rourkela Plant has been gone into by a committee of experts from West Germany whose recommendations for bringing the Plant to its installed capacity are being implemented. Bhilai has already achieved its rated capacity and in the other plants production is increasing.

**SALARIES OF COLLEGE TEACHERS**

\*304. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is poor response from State Governments and universities to the proposal for giving matching contributions for

raising the salaries of college teachers; and

(b) if so, what alternative solution Government have in mind to raise the educational standard in colleges?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Yes, Sir. The response is not encouraging.

(b) There is no alternative solution to such a proposal. However, to raise educational standards in Colleges the Government proposes among other things to—

- (i) improve the Examination system
- (ii) improve the tutorial system
- (Hi) improve physical facilities in Colleges.

#### STATE GOVERNMENTS SHARE IN OIL PROJECTS

\*305. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission have taken a decision regarding State Governments' share in Central Government Projects for the production and refining of oil; and

(b) if so, what is that decision?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI K. p. MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 15 per cent, of the Equity capital investment on the refinery projects in each State should be offered for subscription by the respective State Governments.

#### REDUCTION IN THE IMPORT OF OIL PRODUCTS

\*306. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to reduce the import of oil

products in order to save foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, how this cut would be effected and what are the items that would be involved in that cut?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA) : (a) and (b) The Government have decided to reduce to some extent the free foreign exchange required to meet the import requirements of POL items for the period April/September, 1962. The cut is being effected by reduction in the import of certain refined products. In order to ensure that adequate supplies of petroleum products are available, larger quantity of crude oil is being imported for refining in India.

#### HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION TO U.K. IN CONNECTION WITH MANUFACTURE OF AVRO 748 AIRCRAFT

\*307. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high level delegation of officers has gone to the United Kingdom to discuss with Messrs. Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd., certain matters regarding the manufacture in India of Avro 748 Series II and other aircraft of that family; and

(b) if so, what is the result of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A delegation had been sent as part of the normal arrangements for the progressive manufacture of the Avro. They have made the necessary inquiries and arrangements all of which are related to the processes and procedures of production.

#### INCREASE IN PRICE INDEX

\*308. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the price index has been showing an upward tendency since April last; and