which are likely to result in access to modern and state-of-art technology are to be considered by the Cabinet Committee on Security, on case to case basis.

(c) and (d) The Government, after inter-ministerial consultations, has addressed the issues and concerns raised in respect of specific sectors before taking a decision in the matter.

Wages for staff and labourers working in tea gardens

317. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of policy being adopted to fix the wages for the staff as well as labourers working in tea gardens in Assam and West Bengal in addition to other facilities provided for;

(b) the category-wise details of criterion fixed to finalize wages of tea garden's working staff and labourers along with procedure adopted to define wages for employer;

(c) whether the wages drawn by tea garden staff and labourers is comparatively very low in comparison to mounting price hike and recession in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to increase wages in tea gardens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The wages for workers, and staff employed in tea estates in Assam and West Bengal are fixed through a process of negotiations held between the Management and the workers Unions. The wage negotiations for West Bengal are conducted in the presence of the Labour Commissioner.

In case of Assam the negotiations are concluded at a Bipartite level and thereafter the agreement is sent to the State Government. The same is examined by the State Government and notified under the Minimum Wages Act for plantation workers.

(b) The criteria considered during the negotiations include All India Consumer Price Index (AICPI), demands raised by the Unions and the industry's capacity to pay. Every Agreement is settled and agreed wages are indexed to the AICPI (1949 = 100) number as on the date of the Agreement. This ensures that there is neutralization of the rise in the Consumer Price Index over the period of Agreement.

(c) and (d) Since the wage negotiations factor in the AICPI and the demands raised by the employees unions as explained above, wages provided to plantation workers in totality compare, with workers in similar occupations.

Status of DMIC Project

318. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) Project;

(b) whether any deadline has been set for its completion;

(c) if so, the progress made so far against the set deadline;

(d) whether new industrial cities are being developed alongside the DMIC Project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): (a) to (e) The Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) Project consists of various infrastructure projects for development of new industrial: cities in the DMIC Region. The projects are to be implemented in partnership with the State Governments. The process of land acquisition/land procurement is in progress in the States of Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra and master planning has started in Uttar Pradesh. The following industrial cities have been taken up for development in a phased manner:-