

ration and will indicate the equipment and technical assistance to be provided from Britain.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Trade with U.S.S.R.

*22. SHRI HEM BARUA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S.S.R. have asked the Government of India to allow her to trade with private firms in the country; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No special facilities have been asked for by USSR. They have the same trading opportunities in India as trading companies of other countries.

(b) Does not arise.

Tyre and Tube Industry

*23. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL:
SHRI S. C. SAMANTA:
SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR:
SHRI J. MOHAMED IMAM:
SHRI C. MUTHUSAMI:
SHRI RAM GOPAL SHALWALE:
DR. SURYA PRAKASH PURI:
SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

Will the Ministry of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the automobile tyre and tube industry has been removed from the banned list for licensing purposes;

(b) if so, the results to be achieved by this liberalisation of licensing and whether export of some percentage of production has been made as a condition;

(c) whether this is going to result in further price increase of tyres and tubes for domestic consumption; and

(d) the methods, if any, adopted to make available automobile tyres and tubes to the genuine consumers at control rates in Delhi and elsewhere?

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

(b) The industry has been removed from the banned list with a view to establishing further capacity for the manufacture of automobile tyres and tubes. The establishment of further capacity is presently subject to export of 10 per cent of annual production.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There is no statutory control on the distribution of automobile tyre and tubes. Government have impressed upon the automobile tyre manufacturers to step up the production of tyres. They have also been advised to ensure the availability of these tyres at reasonable prices. Scooter tyres have recently been declared as an "essential commodity" under the Essential Commodities Act. The Industry has also agreed to distribute 10 of scooter tyres and tubes for replacement market through co-operative Societies, like Super Bazar.

Hindustan Steel Ltd.

*24. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Steel Ltd. is presently facing a managerial crisis and the working of Steel Plants has been considerably affected;

(b) the steps taken by Government to find out suitable Managers; and

(c) the decision taken to create Managerial calibre to look after the work of this public Sector Undertaking in future?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY): (a) to (c). Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the appointments to be made to the posts of Chairman, Hindustan Steel Limited and General Manager, Rourkela