The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) to (c). Feasibility studies have been commissioned for the location of a few pig iron plants at various locations in the country including Andhra Pradesh. No specific offers for foreign collaboration for a pig iron plant in Andhra Pradesh have so far been received.

## **Rural Small Industries**

Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda: Shri M. N. Swamy: Shri P. Kunhan: Dr. Saradish Roy: Shri Imbichibaya: Shri Mohan Swarup: Shri P. K. Deo: Shri Solanki: Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Shri N. R. Laskar: Shri Himatsingka:

Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised any scheme under which foreign exchange allocation  $i_s$  to be made for the purpose of encouraging development of rural small industries;

(b) if so, the features of the said scheme; and

(c) whether it is proposed to administer the scheme through State Governments or through the normal Central Government agencies?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) to (c). Out of the foreign exchange allocation to the small scale sector for the period April-September, 1964 for items licensed by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, a separate quota of Rs. 50 lakhs has been earmarked for the import of components and raw materials for suitable production units in the small scale sector in rural areas. Similarly, a separate allocation of Rs. 25 lakhs has been made for import of various categories of steel by such units. This special quota will

be utilized in respect of applications from the following categories of small scale units:—

Written Answers

- (i) Units in rural industrial estates and semi-urban industrial estates situated in towns|villages with less than 15,000 population;
- (ii) Panchayat Samiti industries located in rural areas;
- (iii) Common Facility Centres in rural areas run by Industrial Cooperatives; and
- (iv) Units in areas falling under the Rural Industrialisation Programme sponsored by the Planning Commission in 45 selected areas.

The applications for import licence against the special quota have to be made in the usual forms through the State Government authorities to the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries.

## **Pig Iron Plants**

\*549. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Japanese assistance has of late been offered for the establishment of  $\epsilon igt + pi_{2}$ iron plants;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of the assistance offered; and

(c) the location of each plant and their individual production capacity?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

## **Manufacture of Cameras**

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: 550. Shri Dhuleshwar Meena: Shri A. V. Raghavan: Shri Pottekkatt:

Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to refer to the