

(iii) The Commercial Vehicles industry is prepared to commit itself to self-discipline with a view to ensuring fair prices to the consumers; and it is considered unlikely that the removal of price control would result in any serious price increases.

(iv) It is illogical to control the price of an end product when no control exists over the price of components and units purchased from ancillary manufacturers.

(c) The Development Council which considered the proposal of the automobile manufacturers for price decontrol has not yet made any final recommendations to Government in this regard. Before taking a final view in the matter, the Council has requested the Association of Indian Automobile Manufacturers to furnish more informative data regarding demand, production, the extent to which the prices would increase in the event of decontrol and the manner in which control of prices by manufacturers would be exercised. It was also the majority opinion of the Council that the removal of distribution control should precede the removal of price control on commercial vehicles.

#### **Powerlooms Enquiry Committee**

\*481. **Shri Man Singh P. Patel:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 551 on the 3rd October, 1964 and state:

(a) the decision taken by Government on various recommendations contained in the Powerloom Enquiry Committee Report; and

(b) the advance action taken to implement certain recommendations relating to the Fourth Five Year Plan?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Powerloom En-

quiry Committee are still under the consideration of the Government of India in consultation with the State Governments. Some State Governments are still considering the several aspects of this Report as the subject is naturally of great importance to their local economic development. However, it is hoped to finalise the decisions in the next two months.

#### **Alloy Steel Project at Durgapur**

\*482. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been considerable delay in the setting up of Alloy Steel Project at Durgapur;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when this project is likely to start functioning?

**The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) to (c). There has been some delay in setting up the Alloy Steel Project at Durgapur. Initially it took some time to obtain and complete the scrutiny of the tenders for plant and machinery as alternative proposals had been submitted by the tenderers. This necessitated some revision of the design in the plant and in the buildings after consultations with the Production Advisers, i.e. M/s. Atlas Steel Ltd. of Canada and the suppliers of plant and machinery. More recently, delay in the fabrication of steel structurals and their erection due to labour trouble has retarded the construction schedule. There has also been some delay in the supply of certain technical data by the consortium of equipment suppliers from Japan. This and the heavy rains this year have also contributed to the slowing down of civil engineering work in some important sections of the project.

It is now estimated that the first unit, namely, the Steel Melting Shop II will be commissioned early next year and the project will be completed by the middle of 1967.