

(b) No specific reasons can be assigned for this fall until a survey of the situation is made.

(c) The information is not presently available. The Reserve Bank of India are conducting a survey of foreign collaborations in Indian industry as at the end of March 1964.

(d) No steps beyond what are in existence are at present visualised.

Loan from German Bank for Development

*1420. **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**
Shri Daljit Singh:
Shri D. D. Puri:
Shri M. Rampure:
Shri Firodia:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the German Bank for Development has granted three loans for India recently;

(b) if so, for what purpose; and

(c) the total amount of such loans?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Three loans totalling Rs. 5.95 crores (DM 50 million) were given by Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (the German Bank for Development), for financing the foreign exchange cost of imports required by small and medium sized industries in the private sector, as follows:

- (i) Industrial Finance Corporation—Rs. 2.38 crores (DM 20 million).
- (ii) Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation—Rs. 2.38 crores (DM 20 million).
- (iii) National Small Industries Corporation—Rs. 1.19 crores (DM 10 million).

Soviet Assistance

*1421. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Soviet team visited

India recently to discuss some projects for which Soviet Union has promised assistance; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A number of experts from the Soviet Union have visited India in recent months for technical discussions on the projects and programmes suggested by India for Soviet aid in the Fourth Plan period and their reports are awaited.

Minting of Australian Coins

*1422. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Panna Lal:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item in the *Times of India* of the 13th April, 1966, to the effect that Australian Coins are being minted at the Bombay Mint;

(b) if so, how far the report is correct; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A few pieces of Australian penny and half penny coins were struck during 1960 to 1965 in the Bombay Mint as specimens for supply to coin collectors. The dies for these had been made during the last war for the production and supply of these coins to the Australian Government.

(c) Government have since received a communication about this matter from the Australian Government, and have in deference to the wishes of that Government decided to stop further supply of these coins.