

manufacture of electrical equipment in the country;

(b) whether the special officer has completed his enquiry and submitted a report; and

(c) if so, whether a copy of the report will be laid on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The report was obtained for official use only and it is not in the public interest to disclose the contents thereof.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister may answer the other question also.

HEAVY ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY

*1495. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken regarding the establishment of the heavy electrical industry; and

(b) the proposals that have been received regarding the location of this industry?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes.

(b) Several State Governments have made proposals to locate this industry each in their respective State.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether there is any factory now which is engaged in the manufacture of heavy chemical equipment?

Shri K. C. Reddy: "Heavy electrical equipment" is a generic term: several items go into that category. Some of those items are being manufactured in the private sector of the industry and the private sector has got plans to expand capacity and to go in for new items of production. Even then several items will be left over and they will have to be handled by State agency.

Recently a committee, consisting of experts has been constituted to find out what is the existing capacity and potential capacity in the private sector, what should be taken over by the public sector and if so worked through what agency, and other allied matters. We are expecting the report of that committee within about two months' time after which we will be able to take a final decision regarding the matter.

Shri Shivananjappa: May we know to what extent the proposed factory will meet the requirements of the country?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The object is to see to it that the entire requirements of the country are met by the proposed factory.

रेजर ब्लेड

*१४६५. **श्री जांगड़े :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आयात होने वाले रेजर ब्लेडों का दाम पिछले कुछ समय से बहुत अधिक बढ़ गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). There was an increase in the price of blades some time ago. The prices are now reported to be falling especially after the liberalisation of imports announced a few days ago.

Shri Jangde: May I take it that the India Government had levied high import duties on foreign blades just to encourage Indian manufacturers, and if so, whether the Indian manufacturers have improved the qualitative and quantitative production of blades?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In this case the increase in duty has been made for revenue purposes.