

**खान और ईंधन मंत्री (श्री को० बे० मालवीय) :** (क) खंभात में तेल की खोज में खर्च हुए धन का अभी तक जुदा रू० में हिसाब नहीं लगाया गया है।

(ख) कुर्गों के परीक्षण के दौरान में अब तक खंभात में लगभग ३०० टन के तेल का उत्पादन हुआ है।

(ग) भारत, रूस और रूमानिया।

### Export of Opium

3109. { Shri Badc:  
Shri B. J. Singh:  
Shri Kachhaviya:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) to which foreign countries opium is exported;

(b) the rate of sale to foreign countries;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is great disparity between Government rate of purchase from cultivators and the rate of sale to foreigners; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai):** (a) Opium is exported to the following countries:—

- (i) U.S.A.
- (ii) U.K.
- (iii) U.S.S.R.
- (iv) France.
- (v) West Germany.
- (vi) Japan.
- (vii) Italy.
- (viii) Belgium.
- (ix) Argentina.
- (x) Pakistan and
- (xi) Ceylon.

(b) The current basic export price of finished opium cakes (about 90°

consistence) is \$1.55 or Rs. 7.36 per unit of morphine per kilo f.ob. Calcutta.

(c) and (d). Opium is purchased from the cultivators at about 70° consistence whereas it is sold to the foreign buyers after raising the consistence to 90°. In addition, the price paid to the cultivators is not with reference to morphine content and the two rates are not, therefore, strictly comparable. Moreover, the price charged from the foreign buyers includes transport charges from the place of purchase to the factory, manufacturing and interest charges, as well as packing and transport charges from factory to Calcutta, and Clearing and forwarding charges, other incidental charges including control measures as also an element of profit. In view of all these factors the price paid to the cultivator and the price at which opium is exported are not at all comparable. It would be relevant to add, however, that the price paid to the cultivators between 1955 and 1962 has been progressively increased from Rs. 33 to slabs ranging up to Rs. 41 per seer i.e., an average increased of 24 per cent, whereas the export price could not be raised correspondingly over the same period and in fact at present there is a marked downward trend.

### Small Car Project in Ranchi, Bihar

{ Shri P. C. Borooah:  
3110. { Shri L. M. Singhvi:  
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bihar Government have sought the approval of the Central Government to a scheme for the manufacture of small cars near Ranchi; and

(b) if so, Government's decision thereon?

**The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) and (b). The Bihar Government,