

ration and will indicate the equipment and technical assistance to be provided from Britain.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Trade with U.S.S.R.

*22. SHRI HEM BARUA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S.S.R. have asked the Government of India to allow her to trade with private firms in the country; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) No special facilities have been asked for by USSR. They have the same trading opportunities in India as trading companies of other countries.

(b) Does not arise.

Tyre and Tube Industry

*23. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL:
SHRI S. C. SAMANTA:
SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR:
SHRI J. MOHAMED IMAM:
SHRI C. MUTHUSAMI:
SHRI RAM GOPAL SHALWALE:
DR. SURYA PRAKASH PURI:
SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

Will the Ministry of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the automobile tyre and tube industry has been removed from the banned list for licensing purposes;

(b) if so, the results to be achieved by this liberalisation of licensing and whether export of some percentage of production has been made as a condition;

(c) whether this is going to result in further price increase of tyres and tubes for domestic consumption; and

(d) the methods, if any, adopted to make available automobile tyres and tubes to the genuine consumers at control rates in Delhi and elsewhere?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The industry has been removed from the banned list with a view to establishing further capacity for the manufacture of automobile tyres and tubes. The establishment of further capacity is presently subject to export of 10 per cent of annual production.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There is no statutory control on the distribution of automobile tyre and tubes. Government have impressed upon the automobile tyre manufacturers to step up the production of tyres. They have also been advised to ensure the availability of these tyres at reasonable prices. Scooter tyres have recently been declared as an "essential commodity" under the Essential Commodities Act. The Industry has also agreed to distribute 10 of scooter tyres and tubes for replacement market through co-operative Societies, like Super Bazar.

Hindustan Steel Ltd.

*24. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Steel Ltd. is presently facing a managerial crisis and the working of Steel Plants has been considerably affected;

(b) the steps taken by Government to find out suitable Managers; and

(c) the decision taken to create Managerial calibre to look after the work of this public Sector Undertaking in future?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY): (a) to (c). Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the appointments to be made to the posts of Chairman, Hindustan Steel Limited and General Manager, Rourkela

Steel Plant and the appointment of a Chief Executive at Durgapur Steel Plant. If so, these appointments are likely to be made shortly. Although these appointments are necessary, the efficient running of the Steel Plants does not entirely rest with the top management. The day-to-day affairs of the Plant are presently being looked after satisfactorily by Committees of senior Officers at the Plants and by the Deputy Chairman at the Headquarters of the Company.

Future top Managers have to grow from within the organisation and towards this end systems of management development are being strengthened.

Delicensing of Tractor Industry

*25. SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA:

SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA:
SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI RANDHIR SINGH:
SHRI K. HALDAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed delicensing of tractor industry;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have received any complaint from the Tractor manufacturers in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delicensing is primarily intended to provide encouragement for the speedy setting up of additional capacities in this industry to assist the programmes of accelerated agricultural production.

(c) No, Sir.

Railway Expansion Schemes

*26. SHRI M. L. SONDHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to

(a) whether it is a fact that in future, Railways propose to adopt a

commercial orientation in their expansion schemes instead of automatically following suggestions of the Planning Commission as in the past;

(b) whether the Railways have become sceptical of the Planning Commission's ability to assess the necessity and profitability of new lines; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Railways have discovered that traffic on certain new routes did not come up to expectation?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) All new line constructions are undertaken by the Ministry of Railways after detailed study and with the concurrence of the Planning Commission. As construction of new Railway lines has to be part of an integrated Plan this procedure is being followed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) On some new routes traffic has not come up to expectation so far, whereas on other routes it has. In considering Railway lines required for heavy industrial, mineral, and other projects included in the Plans, a long-term view is taken in reckoning financial returns.

Industrial Complex at Talcher

*27. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of developing the Industrial Complex at Talcher in Orissa has finally been approved;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter; and

(c) whether Government are aware that the State Government have already asked all the technical personnel engaged in this project to seek services elsewhere and they have all left by now?