

The Ministry of I & B is constantly in touch with Hindustan Photo Films, which receives, processes and distributes the imported raw film. According to them the shortage of raw film during the month of October was mainly because of late arrival of two Steamers carrying jumbo rolls from abroad. This shipment which was expected to arrive in September actually reached by the middle of October. Since then HPF have taken steps to maintain a steady supply of raw stock to the film industry and it is understood that the present stock position has improved.

Harbour of Farakka

497. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken towards the implementation of the proposed Inland Harbour at Farakka ; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM) : (a) and (b) : The matter is receiving attention of Government.

Transport service between Calcutta and Farakka

498. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) when regular transport service will commence on commerce and trade basis between Calcutta and Farakka in the first lap and thereafter in the second lap between Haldia and Patna consequent upon inauguration of the proposed and promised Inland Harbour at Farakka Barrage Complex Site ; and

(b) whether nothing has been done so far in spite of the vast improvement of the navigability of river Bhagirathi down Farakka and the Feeder Canal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM). (a) No scheme for regular river transport service between Calcutta and Farakka or between Haldia and Patna or for construction of inland harbour at Farakka has been sanctioned so far.

(b) The traffic study of river Ganga between Allahabad and Calcutta was entrusted to National Council of Applied Economic Research in August, 1974. Their report has been received in Oct. 1977 and is under consideration.

Production of tractors by Hindustan Tractors

499. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the feasibility of producing 13,500 tractors in a period of 5 years by the ex-management of Hindustan Tractors was confirmed by the Technical Consultant appointed by the S.B.I.

(b) whether the present Management is much behind in producing tractors in 50 months of its existence ; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof and the reaction of the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI) : (a) to (c) The management of M/s. Hindustan Tractors Ltd. was taken over by Government on 12th March, 1973 under the IDR Act and M/s. Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. were appointed as its Authorised Controllers for a period of 5 years. During the period prior to the take-over, a firm of consultants had indicated to the State Bank of India, the capability of the unit to manufacture 200 nos. of 50 HP tractors per month by increasing production efficiency, coordination etc. After the take-over another feasibility report was prepared by a firm of consultants. In the report submitted by them in June, 1975 the existing production facilities of the plant were assessed and a suggested plan of action was submitted for raising the plant capacity for production of 50 HP tractors to 1,130 nos. in 1975-76, 1,500 nos. in 1976-77, 2,000 nos. in 1977-78 and 2,400 nos. in 1978-79. The actual production of 50 HP tractors at the plant was 940 nos. in 1975-76, 1,615 nos. in 1976-77 and 1,114 nos. in 1977-78 (April-October, 1977).

2. The production was below the target in 1975-76 because of financial constraints. The target was surpassed in 1976-77, and the present management expects to surpass the production target of 2,000 tractors during the year 1977-78.

Paradip Port

500. SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN : SHRI PADMACHARAN SAMANTASINHERA : SHRI BAIRAGI JENA :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for setting up a ship building yard at Paradip Port, Orissa State ;