

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) & (b). Joint Plant Committee (J.P.C.) prices of steel had to be revised upwards on three occasions during 1978-79 and 1979-80, mainly with a view to find resources for the modernization, development and rehabilitation of the steel industry, as well as to provide for equalization of prices of some categories of steel which had to be imported to meet the rising domestic demand and to make up for shortfalls in production. A small portion of the rise was also intended to cover escalations in the cost of production and distribution.

(c) While it will not be possible to reduce the prices, arrangements have been made to assist the builders of small residential units who mostly belong to the low and medium income groups by supplying a quantity of upto 5 tonnes per unit at stockyard prices. Certain quantities are reserved specifically for this purpose.

Payment of consideration for use of Foreign Trade Mark

477. **SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India with reference to its Notification No. 34/76 dated the 6th March, 1976 has worked out the amount of consideration direct or indirect that is involved in the use of Foreign Trade Mark;

(b) if so, what is the amount involved; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to reduce the payment of consideration for use of Foreign Trade Mark?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) to (c). Certain guidelines have been laid down by the Central Government to regulate the use of foreign trade marks with a view to reduce the foreign exchange outflow. In terms of these guidelines permission for use of trade mark may be given for exports, life saving drugs and pesticides and other chemicals used for plant protection. For other items, no permission is granted for use of foreign trade mark in the domestic market involving direct or indirect consideration. In pursuance of these guidelines, the Notification No. 34/76 of the Reserve Bank of India seeks to grant general permission for use of trade mark for life saving drugs and pesticides and other chemicals used for plant protection. Since it is regulatory in nature, it is difficult to give any estimate of the amount involved towards consideration.

Project Report relating to Ship Breaking Unit at Beypore in Kerala

478. **SHRI K. A. RAJAN.** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the project report for a ship breaking unit at Beypore in Kerala has been submitted to the Centre for its approval; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Economic cooperation with Finland

479. **SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indo-Finnish talks were held on economic