

(a) the principal recommendations made in the interim report of the Working Group on manganese ore set up by Government;

(b) the steps taken by Government to implement them; and

(c) when the working Group is likely to submit its final report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) these are contained in Chapter VII of the "Interim Report of the Working Group on Manganese Industry". The Report is available in the Library of Lok Sabha.

(b) The report has since been discussed in an Inter-Ministerial meeting and the various problems relating to the Manganese Industry have been brought to the notice of the other Ministries concerned for taking further necessary action. A Standing Committee of senior officials of concerned ministries has also been constituted to coordinate the implementation.

(c) By the end of 1971

Setting up of Manganese Ore Development Corporation

4909 SHRI B. NARAYANAN ·
SHRI SAMINATHAN .

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Manganese Ore Development Corporation; and if so, by which time the Corporation will come into being; and

(b) the aims and objectives of this Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Effect on Indigenous Production of Oilseeds by Importing Edible Oils

4910. SHRI P NARASIMHA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum and cost of edible oils proposed to be imported during the year 1971-72; and

(b) whether Government are aware of the adverse effect on indigenous production of oilseeds by such imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH) : (a)

	Quantity (Tonnes)	c. i f value (Rs./crores)
Soyabean Oil	92,000	22 83
Rapeseed	50,000	5 85

(b) The imports are intended to meet the short-fall in indigenous production *vis-a-vis* demand and can, therefore, have no adverse effect thereon. Indigenous production of edible oilseeds and oils is largely governed by the prevailing weather conditions, the production in the current year being the highest on record so far.

Assessment of Cost of Production of Agricultural Commodities

4911. SHRI T. BALAKRISHNIAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to assess the cost of production of agricultural commodities and input by the Central Government;