

**Production cost of generators and turbines in Heavy Electricals (India) Ltd., Bhopal**

5308. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether currently the production cost of generators and turbines produced in Heavy Electricals (India) Ltd., Bhopal exceeds the landed import cost of such items;

(b) if so, whether Government have scrutinised the cost structure of these items manufactured by Heavy Electricals (India) Ltd., with a view to reduce the manufacturing cost so that it is at par with the landed cost of identical products imported from outside; and

(c) to what extent the high cost is due to increase in overhead charges and failure to achieve the production target?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) It is generally not possible to make a direct comparison of the prices of imported and indigenous generators and turbines because these items are tailor made and no two equipments are identical. Moreover the prices quoted by manufacturers abroad vary widely from time to time, country to country and even from manufacturer to manufacturer in the same country. Sometimes manufacturers abroad also quote distress prices in they are badly in need of orders. Generally export pricing is done on the principle of marginal costs.

The Government have not considered it as yet opportune to make a cost study of the items produced at this unit. They are aware that the skills and technology for these products are still in the process of development and so long as full production has not been reached, overheads cannot be spread over the optimum volume of output. It is, as yet premature to analyse as to what extent the high cost could be attributed to any increase in overheads or low level of production.

**Prices of Essential Commodities**

5309. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of essential commodities after the announcement of Budget proposals have been brought under control;

(b) whether the prices in the retail market have no relation to the whole sale market prices; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or likely to be taken to bring down the prices to a reasonable level?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-691/71].

**Payment of Extra Amount to Employees of Centre and States for Work during Mid-term Elections**

5310. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to pay extra amount to the employees of the Centre and the States for their Overtime work during the last mid-term Elections; and

(b) if so, when and in what manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY):

(a) The staff of the Central Government and the various State/Union Territory Governments who performed election duties during the recent mid-term General Elections to the House of the People and a few State Legislative Assemblies are entitled to travelling allowance and/or daily allowance in accordance with the orders on the subject. Government do not propose to pay any other allowance to such staff for the duties performed by them in connection with the above elections.

(b) Does not arise.