

(b) if so, the main points covered in this memorandum; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to alleviate the grievances of the workers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL): (a) and (b). The Beas-Sutlej Link Project Mazdoor Ekta Union along with four other unions gave a Demand Notice to the Beas Project Authorities which included following main demands for the workcharged employees :—

(i) Revision of pay-scales.

(ii) Regularisation of their services.

(iii) Accident and retrenchment compensation to workmen drawing over Rs. 500/- per month.

(iv) Introduction of Gratuity Scheme.

(v) Making provision of Employees Provident Fund Scheme applicable to all workcharged employees.

(c) Conciliation proceedings in the matter were held by the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Chandigarh. However the conciliation failed and after examining the failure report, the Government have referred the first four demands to an Industrial Tribunal for adjudication.

Approval of Nepal Government for West Kosi Allignment

2784. **SHRI BHOGEDRA JHA :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 60 on the 25th May, 1971 regarding alignment of West Kosi Canal in Nepalese territory and state :

(a) whether any specific approach to Government of Nepal has been made in the year 1971 for securing approval for the West Kosi allignment ;

(b) if so, when, in which form and at what level ; and

(c) if not, whether any specific approach is proposed to be made?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Minister of Irrigation and Power drew the attention of His Majesty, the King of Nepal to this matter during His Majesty's recent visit to India.

(c) Does not arise.

Comparative cost of Motor Cars manufactured in India and in Europe

2785. **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :** Will the Minister of Industrial Development be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 158 on the 25th May, 1971 regarding higher cost of Motor cars manufactured in India and state :

(a) whether the profit to the manufacturers on each car produced in India is higher and labour-wage bill lower than for a comparable model in Europe and if not, the exact position in this respect; and

(b) the efforts proposed to be made to bring down the prices of cars manufactured in India at least at par with those of a comparable model in Europe ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) A comparison of the wage bills and profits on each car manufactured in India with those manufactured in Europe is not possible as information about the labour wage bills and the profits of the car manufacturers in foreign countries is not available with Government.

(b) The reasons for the high cost of production of cars manufactured in the country were indicated in reply to part (b) of Unstarred Question No. 158 replied on 25th May, 1971 referred to in this question. In view of these reasons, there is little scope for bringing down the prices of the cars at present manufactured in the country. However, in order to provide healthy competition to the existing car manufacturers and to make available to the public cars of quality at reasonable prices, Government have decided in principle, to establish additional capacity of 50,000 Nos. cars per annum in the Public Sector based on a proven foreign design.