

substitution of the practice of rickshaw pulling by auto-rickshaw driving, which is expected to bring about, gradually, better conditions of work as well as better income for these weaker sections of the community.

Distribution of Steel to Industries

5000. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tatas, Sahu-Jain, Birlas and Mafatlal Group of Industries are shown favour in regard to the supply of steel and the small scale industries face much scarcity ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the quantity of steel allotted to all the units of these Houses in 1971 and the quantity of steel allotted to small scale industries of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh in 1971 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Under the present distribution system, allocations of Steel are regulated by the Steel Priority Committee taking into account the end use for which steel is required, the availability of steel and the competing demands. The Steel Priority Committee give due weightage to the requirements of both large and small scale industries and no favouritism is shown to any particular concerns like Tatas, Sahu-Jain, Birlas and Mafatlal Group of Industries.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Information to the extent possible is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Purchase of Stores

5001. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued directions to prevent the purchase of stores available in India from outside the country; and

(b) if so, the direction issued in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Instructions already exist that no stores can be imported from abroad unless a clearance has been obtained from the Directorate General of Technical Development or other concerned authorities from the indigenous angle. In pursuance of these instructions, it has been the endeavour of the Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals, as a central purchase organisation, to achieve maximum indigenisation of supplies and to promote import substitution by assisting in the establishment and development of indigenous capacity in respect of stores which have hitherto been imported.

Issue Regarding Hijacking of Indian Plane to Pakistan in U. N. O.

5002. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the issue regarding the Indian Plane which was hijacked to Pakistan was raised in the U. N. O. with the help of friendly countries; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) India did not raise the issue regarding the hijacking of the Indian Plane to Pakistan in the United Nations. However, India sent appropriate rejoinders to letters sent by the Permanent Representative of Pakistan at the United Nations to the President of the Security Council, complaining against the Government of India's decision to ban overflights of Pakistani air-craft over Indian territory. The issue was also raised by Pakistan in the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), a Specialized Agency of the United Nations. The Government of India have maintained that the ICAO has no jurisdiction in the matter. The case has now gone to the International Court of Justice at the Hague, for the opinion of that Court in regard to the jurisdiction of the ICAO in the matter.