

Pig Iron Quota for Punjab

289. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Government approached the Central Government to supply pig iron according to the requirements of the small scale industries which are on the verge of closure; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) and (b). Punjab Government like other State Governments had represented about the reduction in the supply of pig iron to the small scale foundries in their States during 1963-64. In order to reduce the backlog of orders pending with the Producers for pig iron and to ensure equitable distribution of the available quantity, a revised scheme has been drawn-up. According to this scheme every foundry both small and large scale would be ensured a fixed quantity of pig iron during 1963-64 though it may be below their assessed requirements. Although efforts are being made to increase the availability, there is no prospect of any appreciable change in availability during 1963-64. The Punjab Government have been advised accordingly.

Precision Instruments Plants at Kotah

290. **Shri R. Barua:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have invited Russian specialists for the Precision Instruments Plant to be set up at Kotah;

(b) if so when the team of experts is expected;

(c) when the plant is likely to be completed; and

(d) capacity and foreign exchange involved?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (d). The detailed project report of the Precision Instruments Plant, Kotah has been received in the end of June 1963 and in accordance with the contract with M/s Prommashexport, Moscow, the Soviet authorities have been requested to arrange for the deputation to India of Russian Specialists during this month for participation in the consideration of the detailed project report. Also in connection with the initial training of Indian technicians Russian Instructors are expected to visit India in the middle of October 1963.

The plant is likely to be completed in about three years from the date when all approvals are accorded. The capacity and foreign exchange of the plant will be known definitely only after the detailed project report is considered and accepted by Government.

Export Credit and Guarantee Corporation

291. **Shri R. Barua:** Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Study Group on Export Finance set up by his Ministry has recommended to set up an Export Credit and Guarantee Corporation for the supply of credit to promote exports; and

(b) if so, what are Government's reactions thereto?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations made by the Study Groups are under consideration.

Textile Mills in Goa

292. **Shri R. Barua:** Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have sanctioned