

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Raj Committee's recommendations amount in effect to a partial decontrol over the distribution of steel. On pricing, their recommendations envisage that the Joint Plant Committee of producers will fix the first sale prices of all the main producers, subject to the approval of Government and subject to such directives as Government may issue whenever necessary. The recommendations of the main producers, both in the public and the private sectors, have only just been received by Government.

(c) The recommendations of the Raj Committee and of the main producers are under the consideration of Government and a decision on them will be taken as early as practicable.

U.S. Loan for Fertilizer Factory

*147. {
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
 Shri D. N. Tiwary:
 Shri P. C. Borooah:
 Shri Yashpal Singh:
 Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
 Shri Maheswar Naik:
 Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
 Shri Vishram Prasad:
 Shri Mohan Swarup:
 Shri G. Mohanty:
 Shri Basumatari:
 Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether any American loan has been secured for the fertilizer factory at Vishakhapatnam;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) the envisaged production capacity of the Plant?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b). The U.S. Export Import Bank has agreed to give a loan

of \$27 million for meeting the foreign exchange requirements of the Vishakhapatnam Fertilizer Project.

(c) The factory will produce 365,000 metric tons of ammonium phosphate (20-20-0) and 16,500 metric tons of urea per year.

Rise in Export Trade

*148. {
 Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
 Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
 Shri B. P. Yadava:
 Shri Warior:
 Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
 Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri B. K. Das:
 Shri Umanath:
 Shri Heda:
 Shri Raghunath Singh:
 Shri R. S. Tiwary:

Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the rise in export trade in relation to the targets;

(b) whether there has been any shortfall in exportable commodities during this year; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to overcome such shortages?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). Progress of export is constantly under review by Government. The performance during the current year has been satisfactory. Exports in the first nine months of the calendar year are estimated to be higher by Rs. 68 to 70 crores as compared to the corresponding period of 1962. Exports during the first six months of the financial year i.e. April-September 1963 were worth Rs. 368 crores as compared to Rs. 332 crores during the corresponding six months of 1962 showing an increase of Rs. 36 crores in half year.