

(b) when the work will start on the Arvi Satellite Earth Station near Poo-na; and

(c) the advantages which will accrue in the matter of speedier and cheaper communication between India and rest of the world thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS: (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL):
(a) Yes.

(b) Civil works for the Satellite Earth Station at Arvi commenced in July, 1967. Installation of equipment is expected to start early next year.

(c) The advantages which will accrue from the Global Communications Satellite System are:—

(i) availability of reliable, stable and high quality International communications facilities to meet India's increasing demands for International telegraph, telephone, radio-photo and telex traffic; and

(ii) provision of capability for handling International television programmes.

Agrind Fabrications Ltd., Calcutta

2032. SHRI GANESH GHOSH:
SHRI B. K. MODAK:
SHRI JOYTIRMOY BASU:
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Workers' Union about re-starting of the looked-out Agrind Fabrications Ltd., of Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter was taken up for conciliation by the State Labour Directorate, Government of West Bengal and joint conference was held. The Company and the Union arrived at a bipartite agreement on 13th February, 1968 and the management agreed to carry on the business in a limited manner. A proposal for re-starting the factory made by the Company to the Industrial Finance Corporation of India to whom the Company's assets stand mortgaged was not accepted by the latter. Steps are now being taken to sell the mortgaged assets in accordance with an order of the Calcutta High Court.

रसायनों का आयात

2033. श्री रामस्वरूप विद्याधी : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अप्रैल, 1960 से मार्च, 1968 तक (1) अमोनियम सल्फेट (2) कैल्शियम अमोनियम नाइट्रेट (3) म्यूरियेट आफ पोटाश के आयात पर कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा खर्च की गई; और

(ख) इस विदेशी मुद्रा का भुगतान किस प्रकार किया गया ?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य-मन्त्री (श्री अन्ना