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School there and that their preference is for a Government Higher Secondary School; and

(c) if so, why the land has been given to the Missionary Organisation for a public school?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI IQBAL SINGH): (a) Yes. Two contiguous plots, earmarked for schools, have been allotted to the Congregation of Irish Christian Brothers in India for the establishment of a High School and a Primary School as the branch of the St. Coulmba's School near New Delhi Post Office

(b) and (c). Yes. A representation from some residents living in the area has been received and this is being examined.

PRICE OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASED FROM SOVIET UNION

4223. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH: SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the price of machineries and equipments purchased by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission from the Soviet Union is costlier than that of Czechoslovakia and Rumania; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for not purchasing them from Rumania and Czechoslovakia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH):

(a) Drilling rigs and other equipment are purchased from USSR, Rumania and Czechoslovakia on technical considerations only. So far idential items of machinery, equipment have not been purchased from these three countries and as such price comparison is not feasible.

(b) Does not arise.

HEAVY ACCUMULATION OF INVENTORY IN OIL & NATURAL GAS COMMISSION

- 4224. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the heavy accumula-

tion of inventory in the Oil and Natural Gas Commission; and

(b) if so, the value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI RAGHU RAMAJAH):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The value of inventory for the year 1966-67 stood at Rs. 26.74 crores. The accounts for the year 1967-68 are under compilation.

POLLUTION OF RIVER WATERS IN BIHAR

4225. SHRI BENI SHANKAR

SHARMA:

SHRI M. S. OBEROI:

SHRI D. C. SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the pollution of waters of rivers Sone, Daha, Damodar and Subarnarekha in Bihar by several factories and mills;
- (b) whether the Bihar Institute of Public Health had made suggestions for the setting up of effluent-treatment plants by the factories on the river banks but to no avail; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the pollution of the waters of these rivers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOP-MENT (SHRI B, S. MURTHY): (a) to (c). The required information has been called for from the Government of Bihar and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as received.

आयुर्वेद विश्वभारती ग्राम ज्योति केन्द्र सरदार शहर (राजस्थान)

4226. श्री प० ला० वारूपःस : नया स्वारक्य, परिवार नियोजन एवं नगर विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :