का आयात किया गया और उनमें से कितनी मोटर गाड़ियों को राज्य व्यापार निगम के माध्यम से बेचा गया तथा कितनी मोटर गाड़ियों का वितरण अन्य साधनों से किया गया;

(ख) इन मोटर गाड़ियों का आयात किन साधनों से किया गया;

(ग) क्या इन मोटर गाड़ियों का आयात सरकार द्वारा जारी किये गये आयात परमिटों पर किया गया अथवा किसी अन्य माध्यम से; और

(घ) विभिन्न साधनों से कितनी [illegible] मोटर गाड़ियों का देश मे आयात किया गया ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) से (घ). एक विवरण (अंग्रेजी में) सभा-पटल पर रखा है जिसमें अप्रैल 1967 से मार्च 1968 तक आयातित रोड मोटर गाड़ियों के ब्यौरे दिये गये हैं [पुस्तकालय में रख दिया गया । देखिये संख्या एल० टी०—1381/68] 1 अप्रैल 1967 तथा 30 जून 1968 के मध्य किये गये आयातों के बारे में अभी जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है । 1 अप्रैल, 1967 से 30 जून 1968 तक राज्य व्यापार निगम ने 707 गाड़ियां बेची हैं । यह बताना सम्भव नहीं है कि उन से कितनी गाड़ियां इस अवधि में किये गये आयातों में से थीं । गाड़ियों का आयात भारत में विदेशी राजनयिक मिशनों के विशेषाधिकार प्राप्त अधिकारियों द्वारा अथवा लाइसेंस के अन्तर्गत अथवा सीमा शुल्क निकासी परमिटों पर किया जाता है । आयात के स्रोतों और अन्य विषयों पर इस समय जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है ।

पूर्वी तथा पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के जोनल क्षेत्रों का तबादला

459. श्री मृत्युंजय प्रसाद : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार पूर्वी तथा पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के जोनल क्षेत्रों का तबादला करने या उनमे परिवर्तन के किसी प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन जोनल क्षेत्रों का विवरण तथा सम्बन्धित रेलवे का नाम क्या है जिनका तबादला अन्य रेलवे को करने का सुझाव दिया गया है;

(ग) क्या इन प्रस्तावों के विरोध में इन जोनल क्षेत्रों के निवासियों, सार्वजनिक निकायों तथा समाज सेवकों से सरकार को कोई विरोध प्राप्त हुए हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री चे० मु० पुनाचा) : (क) और (ख). माननीय सदस्य का स्पष्टतः आशय मण्डलीकरण की उस योजना से है जो पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे पर लागू की जाने वाली है ।

(ग) और (घ). पूर्वोत्तर और पूर्वोत्तर सीमा दोनों रेलों के मण्डलीकरण से सम्बन्धित एक मिली-जुली योजना पर अभी विचार किया जा रहा है कुछ अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए है जिन पर उचित ध्यान दिया जायेगा ।

Amalgamation of Bokaro Steel Limited and Hindustan Steel Limited

460. SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring the Bokaro Steel Limited and Hindustan Steel Limited under the administrative control of one combined corporation; and

(b) whether Government consider that there is large scope for economy if much of the work of these different units in regard to supply, construction and also sales and export is coordinated and done by one agency?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) and (b). There is at present no pro-

posal to bring Bokaro Steel Limited and Hindustan Steel Limited under the administrative control of one combined corporation. Although such an amalgamation could lead to certain advantages, it would have several disadvantages also.

Manufacture of Barrel

461. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2848 on the 5th March, 1968 and state:

(a) whether uniform and equitable allocations of steel sheets were made to all barrel fabricators *pro rata* to their capacities during 1966-67;

(b) if not, reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that total allocations of steel sheets given to barrel fabricators from 1961-62 to 1966-67 were less than 3000 tons per month and target rate of needed supply of 4700 tonnes could not be achieved due to acute shortage of steel sheets; and

(d) if so, reasons for undertaking reassessment of capacities of barrel fabricators during 1963-64 and giving effect to the same for purpose of allocation of steel sheets?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) and (b). During 1966-67 an emergent situation had arisen in respect of the requirements of oil companies for barrels. To meet this situation the Iron & Steel Controller had made a special allotment of steel out of his reserves to be allocated to the different barrel fabricators in consultation with the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals. The Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals recommended that allotments against the special quota should be made in proportion to the orders already with the different manufacturers from oil companies. Some advance allocation had also to be made to certain manufacturers with a view to avoiding hardship and preventing the closure of the units. The advance allocation as well as allocation made in consultation with the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals were made to meet certain emergent situation subject to adjustment in future allocations to bring all the fabricators at par on the basis of assessed capacity. The Joint Plant Committee has been advised of the adjustments to be made.

(c) The total quantity of steel made available for the manufacture of barrels during 1963-64 and 1966-67 was a little more than 2000 tonnes per month, being 37,110 tonnes and 36,618 tonnes, respectively. It is a fact that the target rate of needed supply of 4700 tonnes per month could not be achieved due to insufficient availability of the material from indigenous sources.

(d) As explained in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2848 on the 5th March 1968, the reassessment of capacity was undertaken to meet the requirements of the petroleum industry and other users.

Barrel Manufacturing Units

462. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1698 on the 7th May, 1968 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the licensed capacities of original barrel fabricators were 45640 tons per annum on single shift during 1963-64;

(b) if so, the reasons for not allocating steel sheets to these units to the extent of their licensed capacities;

(c) whether increasing demand for barrels could have been met easily by allocating steel sheets to these units on two shift basis; and

(d) whether the information asked for in parts (b) and (c) of Starred Question No. 1698 dated the 7th May,