Shri P. H. Bheel: Shri Narasimha Reddy: Shri Bhagwat Jha Arad: Shri S. C. Samanta: Shri Subedh Hansda: Shri Dagantha Deb:

Will the Minister of Iron and Steel be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Orissa Government have moved the Union Government for the realisation of the arrears of electricity duty of Rs. 1.69 crores due from the Hindustan Steel Limited, Rourkela;
- (b) whether the State Government had at one stage, threatened to cut off the power supply from Hirakud:
- (c) whether the State Government desisted from taking this step on the intervention of the Centre, which proposed to settle the dispute by negotiations; and
- (d) if so, the result of the negotiations?

The Minister of Iron and Steel (Shri T. N. Singh); (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A sum of Rs. 98:5 lakhs was claimed by the State Government as duty payable by the Rourkela Steel Plant on electricity generated by the Steel Plant but the latter, after obtaining legal advice, contended that amount was not due. The matter has been referred to the Chief Minister of Orissa by the then Minister for Steel and Mines and is under State Government's consideration. ever following a threat by the State authority to discontinue electricity supply to the steel plant, the Rourkela Steel Plant had to make a payment of Rs. 65 lakhs in all.

(d) The State Government were apprised of the legal position by the Chairman, Hindustan Steel Limited and also by the Government of India. No reply has yet been received from them.

Export of Textiles to U.K.

950. Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri K. N. Tiwary:
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri Maheswaw Naik:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Bhagwet Ha Asad:
Shri M. L. Dwivedk:
Shri P. C. Berooah:
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri Kishen Pattanyak:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri A, K. Gopalan:
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the British Government has agreed to allow India to export cotton textiles and yarn to the United Kingdom;
- (b) if so, how far the terms of agreement have been modified to augment the annual quota of exports, taking into account the growth in the domestic consumption in U.K.; and
- (c) whether the British Government has agreed to regulate imports of textiles from the developed countries on the lines suggested by India?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): (a) to (c). Discussions have been taking place with the British Government with a view to concluding an agreement regarding the export cotton textiles and varn to the United Kingdom during the period 1966 to 1970. Pending the conclusion of the agreement, the British Government have allowed an interim quota, equal to half the 1965 quota for cotton textiles and yarn, to be exported during the first half of the quota year 1966. The discussions cover all relevant aspects of the import of textiles into the U.K. including import from developed countries.