

AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) No, Sir, not yet.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Improvement in the Profitability of the Public Sector Steel Plants**

1027. SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA:

SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH:

SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA:

SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES, AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has put forward a three fold plan to improve the profitability of the public sector steel plants at Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal;

(c) whether this proposal has been accepted by the Union Cabinet; and

(d) when the proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT):

(a) to (d). In the Pamphlet entitled "Performance of Hindustan Steel Limited" placed on the Table of the House on 5th April, 1968, it had been mentioned that HSL suffered from certain basic handicaps which affected its working. Some measures to remove or minimise these handicaps are presently under examination.

**Small-Scale Industries**

1028. SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:

SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA:

SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY:

SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE

AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal for the promotion of small-scale industries and reorienting these in a way to bring them on par with the large scale Sector;

(b) if so whether Government have asked the small entrepreneurs to bring forward concrete suggestions in this regard;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) whether Government have decided not to manufacture in the public sector items being produced in the small units?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED):

(a) The main thrust of the programme of development of small scale industries is on modernisation and improved technology so that they can manufacture quality products and stand on their own feet as economically viable units.

(b) and (c). The Government programme is based on giving guidance and suggestion to prospective entrepreneurs in fields of production size of plant and choice of technology which will make it economical to undertake production on a small scale. The entrepreneurs are also welcome to make their suggestions.

(d) There is no specific decision in this regard.

**भारत नेपाल व्यापार**

1029. श्री यशबन्त सिंह कुशबाहू : क्या बंदेशिक व्यापार तथा पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस 'सेशन' में भारत तथा नेपाल के बीच व्यापार बढ़ाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं; और