

*inter alia* referred to the profitability of Public Enterprises, and also indicated that steps are being taken to set right the deficiency, wherever they exist, in the operation of these enterprises.

(b) The factors which militate against the attainment of optimum efficiency by some Public Enterprises and also the measures taken to remedy these deficiencies are indicated in the Document entitled "Public Sector Enterprises—A Memorandum", circulated along with the Budget documents on 28.2.1969.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government have all along tried to improve the working of public enterprises by adopting various measures like giving greater autonomy to public enterprises, putting in people successful in the field of management in charge of major public enterprises, removing chief executives who have not proved successful, assisting in introducing modern management techniques in operation of public enterprises, etc. It has always been Government's intention that public enterprises shall run in such a manner that they may fulfill all their objectives, including profit objective.

#### Excise Duty on Grey Textile Manufacturers

100. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the past, excise duty was the lowest on grey textile manufactures and that the duty increased with the processing methods involved;

(b) whether it is also a fact that under the new *ad valorem* duty on certain specified categories of cloth no such distinction is maintained and that the distinction continues in respect of other non-specified qualities which are under specific duties; and

(c) the reasons for removing the distinctions when *ad valorem* duty was thought of for certain categories and whether Government would like to examine to matter afresh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The *ad valorem* duty was introduced for certain varieties of cotton fabrics having regard to the fact that before the budget when these varieties were being assessed at specific rates, they bore a low incidence of duty as compared to other fabrics of that price range. There is presently no proposal to change the pattern of levy on these costly varieties of cotton fabrics.

#### Tata Fertilizer Project

101. SHRI S. R. DAMANI:  
SHRI D. N. PATODIA:  
SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR:  
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:  
SHRI HIMATSINGKA:  
SHRI BAIDHAR BEHARA:  
SHRI SRINIBAS MISRA:  
SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:  
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:  
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:  
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN:  
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:  
SHRI R. K. AMIN:  
SHRI J. MOHAMMED IMAM:  
SHRI G. C. NAIK:  
SHRI S. XAVIER:  
SHRIMATI ILA PAL-  
CHOUDHURI:  
SHRI P. M. SAYEED:  
SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL:  
SHRI D. R. PARMAR:  
SHRI S. M. SOLANKI:

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

(a) whether the proposal of Tatas for setting up a fertilizer factory at Mithapur has been finally dropped;

(b) if so, the reasons that weighed against the proposal;

(c) if not, whether Government have taken final decision in regard to setting up of the Tata project and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and at what stage the matter rests and how long more it is likely to take for a decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) No.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No final decision has been taken.
- (d) The proposal contains some special features which require to be examined carefully from all angles. The promoters have also indicated that are contemplating some revisions. It is not possible to indicate when a final decision will be taken.

#### Electrification of Bhakra Village

102. SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhakra Village which lent its name to the mighty Bhakra Dam still remains unelectrified; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Directions were given to electrify the Bhakra village three months back. Work is in progress.

#### Supply of Barrels by M/s. Hind Galvanising and Engineering Company to Indian Oil Corporation .

103. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6301 on the 14th April, 1969 and state:

- (a) Whether Government have since collected all the information;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, how much time it is likely to take ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) Yes.

(b) The required information is given below :-

In terms of the Purchase Order, the party was committed to supply 2,50,000 number of barrels, a part of which could be obtained out of IOC's steel. In view of this, while the arbitrator's award mentioned that Hind Galvanising and Engineering Company cannot be relieved of their obligation to supply the balance quantity of barrels, it did not alter the terms of the Purchase Order as to the source of steel out of which barrels were to be fabricated.

The Indian Oil Corporation do not have information regarding the barrels supplied by M/s. H. G. E. C. to other oil companies. They informed the I.O.C., that they were not getting cold rolled steel.

The Indian Oil Corporation and M/s. H.G.E.C. reached a settlement after the arbitrator's award under which Indian Oil Corporation was to supply to H.G.E.C. steel to the extent of 75,267 barrels and HGEC was to supply 36,000 barrels from their own cold rolled steel before 31st December, 1968 subject to availability of steel with the fabricators. As against 36,000 numbers M/s. H.G.E.C. supplied only 15,079 numbers from their own cold rolled steel upto 31st December, 1968. For the balance, they advised that they had not been getting enough quantity of cold rolled steel and they would supply cold rolled steel barrels as and when rolled steel was made available to them. Considering the urgency of their requirements and to avail of HGEC's low fabrication rate, the I.O.C. decided to supply their own steel for the balance quantity of 20,921 barrels yet to be delivered by 31.12.1968. No breach of agreement if involved and no privilege was shown to M/s. Hind Galvanising and Engineering Company.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Import of Gauge Steel Sheets by Oil Refineries.

104. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be