

their T.D. Block Programme during 1969-70. Rs. 172.00 lakhs were allocated for the current year. The allocation for 1970-71 has not so far been finalised. The allocations are calculated with reference to the approved schematic pattern.

**SETTING UP OF INDUSTRIAL WORKSHOPS IN MADHYA PRADESH FOR THE BLIND AND HANDICAPPED**

5054. SHRI D. V. SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals have been received from the Madhya Pradesh Government for the establishment of Industrial workshop for the blind and other handicapped persons under the Fourth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the central assistance sought for each of them; and

(c) Government's decisions thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE [DR. (SHRIMATI) PHULRENUGUHA]:  
(a) No formal proposals have been received.

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

**RETENTION PRICE PAID TO CEMENT INDUSTRY**

5055. SHRI K. RAMANI:  
SHRI UMANATH:  
SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:  
SHRI E. K. NAYANAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price increase of Rs. 13 per tonne given to the cement producers in 1966 provided for elements of Rs. 1.30 for interest on loans for expansion, Rs. 3.85 for expansion, Rs. 2.00 for bonus, Rs. 3.15 for tax and 2.70 for increase in cost of production;

(b) if so, the units which actually utilised the total provision for expansion of Rs. 5.15;

(c) the units which did not utilise the same;

(d) how did the units, which had not expanded, utilised the above provisions for expansion; and

(e) the checks Government intended to enforce for proper utilisation of the above provisions ?

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

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Place in library. See No. LT-2498/69].

(d) and (e). The producers were required to keep only a proforma account of the amounts credited to the Expansion Reserve Account at the rate of at least Rs. 4 per tonne and utilise the same for placing orders for plant and machinery for expansion purposes. The utilisation of the accumulation in this account, for the purpose intended has been pursued with the producers from time to time. They have now been asked to keep the unspent balances of the above account in a joint account with the Government to ensure that the funds are in fact spent for the purpose intended.

**IMPROPER UTILISATION OF PROVISION FOR EXPANSION BY CEMENT PRODUCERS**

5056. SHRI K. RAMANI:  
SHRI UMANATH:  
SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:  
SHRI E. K. NAYANAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND ANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) the steps taken by Government to recover the additional price paid to the cement producers which have utilised the provision for expansion for purposes other than those for which it was intended;

(b) the justification for permanent absorption of the additional provision for expansion in the retention price of such units as have not expanded; and

(c) whether some of the units have been given recently the maximum increase of Rs. 9.50 from the 16th April, 1969 despite the non-utilisation of the provision for expansion ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) and (b). The producers were required to keep only a proforma account of the amounts credited to the Expansion Reserve Account at the rate of Rs. 4 per tonne during the period from 1-1-66 to 15-4-69 and utilise the same for placing orders for plant and machinery for expansion purposes. As the amounts credited into this account were not sufficient in themselves to undertake expansion and were intended only to provide a small portion of the funds required for expansion, the rest of the funds required being found by the producers themselves by loans etc., there is no question of the recovery. The producers have been asked to keep the unspent balances in the above account in a joint account with the Government to ensure that the funds are in fact spent for the purpose intended.

(c) Yes, Sir. This was incidental to the introduction of a uniform price of Rs. 100 per tonne.

#### PRICE OF CEMENT

5057. SHRI K. RAMANI:  
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN:  
SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI:  
SHRI NAMBIAR:  
SHRI UMANATH:  
SHRI P. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the three differential prices of cement in force till recently were based on the Tariff Commission's recommendations in 1961;

(b) whether Government in 1967 did not accept the proposal of the Cement Allocation and Coordinating Organisation for a uniform price;

(c) whether Government defended the differential prices in the Jodhpur High Court when the legality of the Cement Control Order 1967 was challenged;

(d) whether the Jodhpur High Court upheld the differential prices;

(e) if so, whether there has been any change in the Government policy thereafter; and

(f) whether the changed policy is casting an additional avoidable burden on the consumer by paying more than justifiable price in the case of some units ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f). The policy of a uniform price for the industry was accepted in principle by the Government as early as 1961 and the policy of progressive decontrol was accepted even in 1965.

#### CONSORTIUM FOR FREIGHT POOLING AND UNIFORM F.O.R. PRICE OF CEMENT

5058. SHRI K. RAMANI:  
SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM:  
SHRI VISWANATHA MENON:  
SHRI GANESH GHOSH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cement producers are proposing to form a Consortium to operate a freight pool and adopt a uniform F.O.R. destination price for the entire country;

(b) whether, as and when such Consortium is formed, Government propose to give guidelines for such an organisation similar to those given in 1965 and associate Government with the management of the consortium; and

(c) if not, how Government would ensure that freight which is on consumer's account, is operated by producers on 'no loss no profit' basis as at present, costing least burden on the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Government have no information.

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