

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

(b) & (c). The question of import of foreign technology has been under the constant review of Government. While the basic policy in respect of foreign collaboration remains broadly the same as hitherto, considerable reorientation has been brought about, keeping in view the strong industrial base that has been set up in the country and the need for boosting exports of our manufactured products as also the development of indigenous research and technology. Not only is greater selectivity now being exercised in the matter of approval of foreign collaboration proposals, but specific guidelines have also been laid down for dealing with individual cases. With a view to avoiding repetitive import of technology for the manufacture of same or similar products, efforts are made to conduct coordinated negotiations when a number of units are proposed to be set up for the manufacture of the same item at about the same time. Technical collaboration agreements are now usually approved only for a period of 5 years from commencement of production, both so as to ensure the absorption of such know-how by Indian units as early as possible and also to encourage the establishment of adequate R. & D facilities by Indian manufacturing units. Care is also taken to ensure that, as far as possible, collaboration agreements do not impose restrictions on exports of manufactured products, and also that a provision is made in the agreements which allows the know-how to be passed on to another Indian Company, should it become necessary, on terms to be mutually agreed to by all concerned including the foreign collaborator and subject to the approval of the Government. With a view to ensuring maximum possible utilisation of Indian consultancy services, it has been laid down that wherever Indian consultancy is available, it should be utilized exclusively and if foreign consultancy is also essential, Indian consultants should also be associated and, as a rule be the primary agency employed for consultancy.

Export of Steel

2226. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL :
Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the contracts with foreign countries to supply steel have not been going on as per schedule regarding the supply of steel under the contracts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that now top-priority has been assigned to rush steel to honour these contracts within the next three months;

(d) the details about such contracts and the requirements of steel to fulfil the contracts; and

(e) whether a Conference of the heads of the Public Sector Steel Plants was called in January, 1970 and, if so, the outcome thereof ?

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

(a) to (c). There have been delays in the execution of export contracts for steel for reasons such as shortage of steel, non-availability of shipping space etc. Efforts are being made all the time by producers & exporters to fulfil these commitments as quickly as possible.

(d) The number of individual export contracts is very large and information on their details would be voluminous. Such details are not available with the ministry.

(e) No, Sir, apart from the normal quarterly meeting for review of performances.

सिंचाई प्रयोजनों के लिये बैलेन्सड वाटर पम्प का आविष्कार

2227. श्री मोहन प्रसाद : क्या औद्योगिक विकास, आन्तरिक व्यापार तथा सभवाय-कार्य मंत्री यह बतायें की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि एक संसद-सदस्य ने किसी आविष्कर्ता का एक प्रार्थना पत्र निदेशक, आविष्कार प्रोत्साहन बोर्ड, 39, रिंग रोड, लाजपत नगर, नई दिल्ली-14 को 11 जनवरी, 1968 को भेजा था जिसमें उस व्यक्ति ने इस बात का दावा किया था कि उसने सिंचाई प्रयोजनों के लिये एक बैलेन्सड वाटर पम्प का आविष्कार किया है जिस पर केवल 400 रुपये