there may be a few difficulties in the beginning which we are trying to streamline.

SHRI DHAMANKAR: May I know whether Government has received complaints that while distributing imported material, small scale units are neglected and big units are given preference?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: There are quite a few representations from the small scale sector about the availability of raw materials. It is precisely this point that we are taking care of especially through the Internal Raw Material Assistance Centre—IRMAC—attached to the S.T.C. and we are giving facilities to the small scale sector.

Scheme for Compulsory Export of Engineering and Chemical Items

*165. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO:
SHRI RAM SHEKHAR PRA-
SAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to extend the scheme for compulsory exports to Engineering and Chemical Units;

(b) if so, when the final decision is likely to be taken; and

(c) to what extent it will help the export of Engineering goods?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) and (b). A scheme of compulsory export obligation under the Actual User policy already in operation includes some engineering and chemical industries. The question of extending the scope of compulsory exports is under consideration.

(c) While any strengthening of the present scheme would be calculated towards augmenting the exports, an assessment of the extent thereof would not be possible at this stage.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: May I know whether Government has taken any steps for the modernisation of textile mills and, if so, to what extent the foreign exchange has been sanctioned for the import of capital equipment to the exporting mills, what are those mills, and whether some exporting mills of Orissa have not been given any amount for this purpose and, if so, what are the reason?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, the Question pertains to Engineering and Chemical industries. It seems the hon. Member is more interested in textile industry. I do not know whether this is covered by the question.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: May I know from the hon. Minister as to under the actual-users policy how many engineering and chemical industries are operating in the country and what are the States?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: There are many industries but as regards industrial units category-wise, the figures are not readily available. There are 59 industries of which 12 have been selected under actual-users policy and the minimum export obligation for them is 5 per cent of their production.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: In view of the hon. Minister's statement, as I have seen in papers a few days ago, that three free trade zones have been created in the country, Bombay, Dum Dum and Madras and that in those free-trade zone areas, the engineering and chemical industries will be set up, may I know whether all the produce from those free-trade zone areas will be exported compulsorily and, if not, what is the policy of the Government thereto?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: So far as free trade zone areas and the industries to be located therein