

robbery which took place on the 31st May, 1971 in the Punjab National Bank, New Delhi, has been completed ; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken against the culprits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The investigation of the case is still in progress.

(b) Does not arise.

Purchase of Rubber by S.T.C.

*682. **SHRI C. M. STEPHEN :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of rubber purchased by the State Trading Corporation through its agencies in Kerala during the year 1970-71 as also the percentage thereof in relation to the total quantity offered for sale :

(b) whether the State Trading Corporation will purchase rubber from individual producers and, if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether his Ministry is aware that the manufacturers are not purchasing rubber at the prescribed price from the producers and whether the Ministry contemplates the grant of permission to export rubber in view of the need to keep up market price to the prescribed level ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The State Trading Corporation entered the rubber market in October, 1970 to effect purchase of raw rubber RMA Grade I to V and purchased 6,000 tonnes of rubber during 1970-71 from the co-operative societies of small growers and service co-operatives. Total quantity available for sale for the period October, 1970 to 31st March, 1971 in the market is not available.

(c) Government have not received any specific complaint against the manufacturers purchasing rubber below the notified prices. The possibility of export of rubber also is being explored.

Import of Aluminium Goods from Nepal

*683. **SHRI B. R. SHUKLA :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any articles of aluminium, manufactured in Nepal, are imported into India ;

(b) if so, the extent of annual import ; and

(c) whether aluminium is being exported to Nepal from India ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) Upto December 31, 1970, there were no restriction on import of aluminium manufactures from Nepal into India. However, according to the available information, there have been no import of aluminium manufactures from Nepal during 1968-69, 1969-70 and April-December, 1970.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Yes, Sir.

Central Assistance for Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority

*686. **SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of Central assistance decided to be given to the Government of West Bengal for the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority upto the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan ; and

(b) the schemes for which such assistance has been given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) and (b). Central assistance for States' Fourth Five Year Plans is being allocated in the form of block loans and block grants in accordance with an objective formula evolved by the Chief Ministers' Committee of the National Development Council. Its allocation is not linked with any specific schemes or programmes adopted in the plan by a State Government for its rural, urban or metropolitan areas. West Bengal has been allocated a Central assistance of Rs. 221 crores for its Fourth Five Year Plan of Rs. 322.50 crores.