

(b) if so, the total value of the stores purchased during the period;

(c) whether Government are aware that some of the stores could be produced in this country; and

(d) if so, the reasons for purchasing these stores from abroad?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha):** (a) and (b). Railway stores involving foreign exchange payment of Rs. 18.81 crores only were imported from U.S.A. during 1965-66 whereas the total value of stores purchased during the same period was Rs. 329.71 crores.

(c) The stores imported from U.S.A. referred to above did not include any items produced in India at the time they were ordered.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

#### Venkatchelam Committee

\*339. **Shri S. R. Damani:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Venkatchelam Committee has submitted its recommendations for suggesting special incentives for backward areas;

(b) if so, whether the said Report has been scrutinised and if so, Government's decision thereon; and

(c) if not, when the Report is expected to be submitted?

**The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Committee on Dispersal of Industries (commonly known as Venkatchelam Committee) submitted its report in December, 1961. While the recommendations of this Committee were under consideration in consultation with the other Ministries concerned, the national emergency was declared and it was felt that further consideration might be deferred for the time being. Later, in connection with the drafting of the Fourth

Five Year Plan, the Government of India, at the instance of the Planning Commission, appointed various working groups to draw programmes on different aspects of the economy. As a part of this work, the sub-group on small scale industries was appointed with Shri K. V. Venkatchelam as the Chairman. This sub-group considered the recommendations made by the Committee on Dispersal of Industries for formulating its own recommendations for decentralization of industries.

In the meantime, the Rural Industries Planning Committee of the Planning Commission appointed a committee called the "Committee on Incentives for Rural Industrialisation" with Dr. D. K. Malhotra, Joint Secretary as the Chairman in December, 1964. (On Dr. Malhotra taking up an U.N. assignment later, Shri K. V. Venkatchelam took over as the Chairman of the Committee). This Committee was to consider the incentives required for accelerating the development of industries in selected rural industries project areas. This Committee submitted its report in June, 1966. In making their recommendations, this Committee also considered the recommendations of the earlier Committee on Dispersal of Industries and came to the conclusion that the concessions and incentives suggested in the report should be admissible to small scale units in 49 rural industries project areas only during the Fourth Five Year Plan Period. The recommendations of this latter Committee are under consideration of the Planning Commission.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Shift from Industrial Policy Resolution

\*340. **Srimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of the Industries Minister of Kerala in which he hinted at the possibility of

the shifts in the Industrial Policy Resolution;

(b) whether Government have got the details of the new policy to be pursued by the State Government; and

(c) how far the proposed new industrial policy of Kerala Government will conform to the overall pattern of the Industrial Policy Resolution of the Central Government?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) and (b). A news item appearing in a section of the press has come to the notice of the Government according to which the Industries Minister of Kerala is stated to have hinted at the possibility of a shift in the industrial policy of the State Government. He is, however, stated to have declined to give the details of the new policy which, according to him, is still under State Government's consideration. The news item does not mention the Industrial Policy Resolution as such. No further information in the matter is available with the Government of India.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Manufacture of X-Ray Tubes

\*341. Shri P. K. Deo:  
Shri G. C. Nalk:  
Shri K. P. Singh Deo:  
Shri A. Dipsa:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to manufacture X-Ray tubes in the public sector in India;

(b) if so, how much annual saving in foreign exchange will be made as a result thereof;

(c) whether it is also proposed to have any foreign collaboration in this project; and

(d) if so, the main features thereof?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) Yes, Sir. M/s. Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore propose to manufacture X-Ray Tubes.

(b) About Rs. 47.60 lakhs per annum.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir. Details are under examination.

#### Operating Efficiency of Indian Railways

\*342. Shri K. P. Singh Deo:  
Shri D. N. Patodia:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons which are standing in the way of increasing the efficiency of operation and the speed of the Indian Railways as compared to other developed countries despite the very large investments in the recent times; and

(b) the steps taken to improve the norms of operation of the Indian Railways?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C.M. Poonacha): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-311/67].

#### Khetri Copper Project

\*343. Shri D. N. Patodia:  
Shri N. K. Somani:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) the capital outlay that was originally estimated some years back for the Khetri Copper Project and the latest estimate of the capital outlay which has been prepared for this project;

(b) the period during which this project was originally estimated to be completed and the period which Government now consider necessary to complete the project;

(c) if the completion of the project is likely to take a longer time, the reasons therefor; and