

alia the Soviet Union reserving to itself the right to seek repayment in Sterling contrary to the general impression that the Soviet credit to India for the construction of the Bokaro Steel Plant is repayable only in Rupee; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In accordance with Article (9) of the Indo-Soviet Agreement dated the 25th January, 1965, for the construction of Bokaro Steel Plant, repayments of the credit and payment of interest accrued thereon shall be effected in Indian rupees, and the amount credited may be used by the Soviet organisations for purchasing goods in India in accordance with the Indo-Soviet Trade Agreement in force and/or may be freely converted into pounds sterling. No repayment has been made in converted pounds sterling. These terms are not different from the repayment terms applicable to other credits granted by the U. S. S. R. for the construction of various projects in India.

Increase in price of Paper by Paper Industry

*42. SHRI JYOTIRMAY BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether, while addressing the members of the Federation of Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries at a meeting held in Hyderabad on the 8th January, 1970, he warned the consumer goods industries that Government will not remain an idle spectator if they misbehave and indulge in manipulation;

(b) if so, the facts of misbehaviour and manipulation that have come to the notice of Government;

(c) how many times since the decontrol of paper industry, the entrepreneurs in the industry increased prices of paper and the rates of increase each time; and

(d) the steps, if any taken by Government against entrepreneurs of paper industry for enhancing the prices of paper ?

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

(b) The observation as to Government's reaction was more in the nature of a general warning that with regard to any particular instances of misbehaviour and manipulation.

(c) The paper industry increased the prices by Rs. 250/- per tonne first and then a second time the prices were increased by Rs. 95/- to 150/- per tonne, depending on the grammage of paper.

(d) Government have informed the Joint Committee of the paper Industry that there should be no further increase in the paper prices without prior consultation with Government.

राज्यों में औद्योगिक विकास के लिये सहायता

*43. श्री मोल्हू प्रसाद : क्या औद्योगिक विकास, आंतरिक व्यापार तथा समवाय-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत वर्ष केन्द्रीय मंत्रिमण्डल ने वित्तीय सहायता देने का निर्णय किया था ताकि उत्तर प्रदेश सहित छः पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में औद्योगिक विकास को प्रोत्साहन जिनमें करों से छूट देना भी सम्मिलित है मिल सके; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में अब तक की गई क्षेत्रवार प्रगति का व्योरा क्या है ?

औद्योगिक विकास, आंतरिक व्यापार तथा समवाय कार्य-मंत्री (श्री फलकशीन अली अहमद) : (क) और (ख). पिछले क्षेत्रों में उद्योगों से प्रारम्भ करने के लिए वित्तीय तथा आर्थिक प्रोत्साहन के बारे में कार्यकारी दल द्वारा विभिन्न वित्तीय तथा कर सम्बन्धी