

if so, when and, if not, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) :** (a) to (d). The question of introducing the Old Age Pension Scheme was considered earlier. Due to limitation of resources and the priority being given to Child Welfare, no scheme for the Aged has been included in the Fourth Five Year Plan. However nine States, including Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Mysore, Punjab, Rajasthan; Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Haryana are offering Old Age assistance with a limited coverage under non-Plan programme. No proposal of examining the subject of Old Age Pension is under consideration at present.

There is no proposal of unemployment Pension Scheme. However under the programme of Apprenticeship Training stipend is given to Engineering Graduates and diploma holders during the period of Training in industry by the Ministry of Education. The Ministry of Labour and Employment has been considering the introduction of a limited scheme of Unemployment insurance for the industrial workers only who are members of the Employees, Provident Fund and Coal Mines Provident Fund and are thrown out of employment for short periods.

#### Import of Steel

\*468. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :  
SHRI N. K. SOMANI :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons why our Steel Plants, even after getting all the required raw material, expertise and a good deal of teething time, are not working to full capacities, necessitating imports worth crores of rupees;

(b) whether there are certain qualities of steel which cannot be produced in these Plants and have to be imported; and

(c) if so, how much worth of foreign exchange is being spent annually on such items and for what uses ?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) :** (a) Import of steel is necessitated partly because of the steel plants not producing to their capacity and partly because some categories of steel are not being produced in the country. The shortfall in production from the main producers is due to a variety of reasons such as disturbed industrial relations situation, particularly as Durgapur, Burnpur and Rourkela, backlog of maintenance, poor availability of refractories, spares etc.

(b) and (c). There are certain items like Cold Rolled Grain Oriented sheets (required for stampings for transformers) and Cold Rolled Non-grain Oriented Sheets (required for production of stampings for large capacity dynamos and generators) which cannot be produced in the country for want of the required equipment and technology. For the present, the import of the former is of about 20,000 tonnes per year costing about Rs. 10 crores in foreign exchange and a about 3000/4000 tonnes per year of the latter for which the approximate cost is Rs. 1.5 crores. A proposal for setting up facilities for the manufacture of these types of sheets in the country is presently under consideration.

#### कुटीर उद्योगों का सम्बन्धन

\*469. श्री श्रीम प्रकाश त्यागी : क्या औद्योगिक विकास तथा आंतरिक व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार ने चौथी पंचवर्षीय योजना में कुटीर उद्योगों के संदर्शन के लिए क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है ;

(ख) कुटीर उद्योगों के रूप में किन उद्योगों को चलाए जाने के प्रस्ताव है ; और

(ग) कुटीर उद्योगों को बड़े उद्योगों की प्रतिष्ठा से बनाने के लिए क्या उपचारमत्क उपाय अपनाए गए हैं ?