

being made to commission its first unit by March, 1986.

High cost of Indian engineering goods

3665. SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESHWARA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian engineering goods are not competitive because of their high cost of manufacture ;

(b) the factors that contribute to the high cost of production especially when Indian labour is cheap and India is in no way deficient in raw materials;

(c) whether one of the factors for the Indian engineering goods being costly is the low purchasing power of Indian rupee in terms of currency of other countries; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to step up the exports of engineering goods ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Some of the Indian engineering goods are uncompetitive in the International markets mainly on account of high cost of inputs, inadequate infrastructural facilities and uneconomic scale of production.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Government have taken a series of measures for boosting the export of engineering goods. These, *inter-alia*, include continuation and strengthening of the International Price Reimbursement Scheme, liberalisation of imports for export production, link deals for exports and lines of credits to some countries.

[*Translation*]

Concentration of black money in purchase and sale of houses in posh colonies of Delhi

3666. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) whether during the last five years there has been concentration of black money by way of purchase and sale of houses in posh colonies in New Delhi areas such as, Safdarjung Enclave, Panchsheel Park, Greater Kailash, Nehru Place, Jor Bagh, South Extension Part I-II, New Friends Colony, Green park, Hauz Khas etc.

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct a survey regarding the sale and purchase of all such houses and collect the figures from the Registration Office and Compare the same with their market prices and see how the sale and purchase deeds were executed or find out who are residing in these houses in place of original owners, by executing power of attorney; and

(c) whether a special cell will be set up to unearth such black money.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, specific instances have come to the notice. Survey is a constant process and action is being taken in accordance with the long term action plan.

Increase in price of Iron

3667. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the wholesale per tonne rate of iron in 1951, 1961, 1971, 1981 and the rate that is obtaining at present;

(b) the reasons for this rapid increase in its prices;

(c) whether prices of iron have not affected the country's market;

(d) whether its market can be stabilised only by controlling its prices; and

(e) if so, the action being taken by Government in this direction ?