

Efforts have been made within the available resources to expedite progress of projects where foundation stones have been laid by Prime Minister or Railway Minister. Completion of the projects at S. No. 3, 6, 12 & 13 will, however depend on availability of resources during the subsequent Plan periods.

In case of Project at item 8, further progress is held up due to Ministry of Irrigation (Central Water Commission), and State Governments of Bihar and U.P. not agreeing to bear their share of cost of protection works.

### Issue of Bonus Shares by Companies

\*74. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI:  
SHRI ABDUL HAMID:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposals to relax the guidelines governing the issue of bonus shares by companies; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) The various guidelines relating to capital issues are kept under review and changes made periodically as may be needed. Suitable modification (s) to the Bonus guidelines would also be made if and when such changes appear desirable in the interest of the capital market.

(b) Does not arise.

### Price of Imported Rubber

\*75. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of imported rubber have been exorbitantly increased by the State Trading Corporation;

(b) if so, the extent of increase in the rubber prices since January this year indicating the prevailing prices in January and in June this year; and

(c) whether shoe industry, especially the small manufacturers, have been affected thereby?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c). The release price of imported natural rubber till November, 1988 was Rs 20,000/- per MT ex-godown, Madras. Subsequent to November, 1988, further releases were effected in April, 1989 at a release price of Rs. 23,573/- per MT ex-godown Madras. The releases made by STC effective from 10th July, 1989 is at a release price of Rs. 27,400/- per MT ex-godown, Madras.

The prevailing prices of indigenous rubber in January and June, 1989 respectively were Rs. 17,550/- per MT and Rs. 22,840/- per MT.

The rubber consuming industry, including shoe manufacturing industry, has represented against this release price.

### Iron Ore Export to Japan

\*76. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of iron ore imported by Japan from India during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the export of iron ore to Japan during 1989-90; and