

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) It is understood that the Government of Bihar in collaboration with the Ford Foundation organised a Seminar on Urban Development in Patna on the 9th and 10th April, 1967. The information about the matters discussed in the Seminar are being obtained from the Bihar Government.

(b) and (c). Information is being obtained from the Government of Bihar.

The information will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

#### Unsold Stock of Handloom Products

\*255. Shri V. Krishnamoorthi: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of huge stocks of handloom products lying unsold in Madras State; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to find suitable foreign markets to dispose the heavy stocks from Madras State?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce (Shri Shaif Qureshi): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-510/67].

#### Supply of Steel to Exporters of Engineering Goods

\*256. Shri K. E. Ganesh:  
Shri Chandra Jee Yadav:  
Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Shri K. Anrudhan:  
Shri P. P. Esthose:  
Shri K. M. Abraham:  
Shri Umanath:  
Shri Viswanatha Menon:

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

(a) whether Government propose to make available steel to exporters of

engineering goods at "International Prices";

(b) the amount of subsidy that Government will have to bear to implement this proposal; and

(c) the difference between the 'International' and 'Indian Price' of Steel per ton at present?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) Yes, Sir. A copy of the scheme announced by the Joint Plant Committee is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-506/67].

(b) The expenditure will be borne by the producers, and not by Government. The expenditure incurred will depend upon the export performance of the manufacturers of engineering goods.

(c) The difference between the international and Indian base prices ranges between Rs. 30 and Rs. 200 per tonne according to the category of steel.

#### Rise in Price of Steel

\*257. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether any calculation has been made of the financial implications of the new rise in the price of steel; and

(b) the extent to which it will affect the various public sector projects and undertakings which consume steel?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Average increase comes to about Rs. 53 per tonne for steel and Rs. 22 per tonne for pig iron. Government departments and Public Sector Undertakings may have to pay about Rs. 9 crores more for their requirements of steel, every year.