

in office, does not mean to employment potential in the office will be reduced. Now this is an instrument which helps us in increasing the efficiency, in reducing the delay and in helping those who are in the offices in getting their pay, pension and all other things in time. If you use computers in railway reservation, in the use of wagons on time, in the industry or in the power or energy ministry, it will help you. So the intention of the Government is not to issue—I am very clear on that point—instructions to the people not to use the computers because we have full faith in the modern instruments and we think that they generate and produce more employment. Now if any discussion is held on this subject here in this House or outside, we would have an opportunity of explaining that these new instruments do not reduce but increase the total employment opportunities.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sir, following from the suggestion of the hon. Member, we could also remove the typewriters from our offices and revert to calligraphy because that would employ even more people.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI : The Centre had called a meeting of the State Chief Ministers on 14th November 1985—on the birthday of our late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru—and at that meeting it was decided that the States should formulate a crash programme for bridging the gaps in manpower and equipment. I would like to know whether any time-limit was given and, if so whether any State Government has submitted a crash programme.

SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL : Under the Constitution the Central Government is not expected to ask such kind of details from them. The meeting was organised to explain to them that there are certain new areas to develop and for the new areas a new kind of manpower has to be generated because they were on the verge of formulating the Five Year Plan and

laying down policies for education in the Seventh Five Year Plan in the States. We wanted to explain to them, here is electronics which is expanding and there are other areas also which are going to come up on the horizon, so, manpower should be made ready. At the same time we wanted to explain to them as to how we would be able to help them in that .....(Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is advised that he should not stand between the speaker and the Chair. That is not the etiquette in the House.

Now, Mr. Minister, have you finished? The question and the answer, both, are unintelligible.

SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL : We have explained to them our programmes, the areas which are developing and we have asked them to take up this matter.

♦348 [*The Questioners (Shri Kailash Patil\* Mishra and Shri Shanker Singh Vaghela) were absent for answer, vide cols 45 infra*]

\*349- *The questioner (Dr. Shyam Sundar Mohapatra) was absent. For answer, vide cols.46 infra.)*

\*350- (*transferred to the 19th December, 1985*)

#### **Soviet assistance for different plan projects in India**

\*351. SHRI KALPNATH RAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indo-Soviet Planning Board held discussions recently regarding the Soviet assistance for different plan projects in India; and

(b) if so, what were the subjects discussed and whether any agreements have been reached ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the

ninth meeting of the Indo Soviet Planning Group which provides a forum for bilateral exchange of planning experiences between the two countries was held recently. The subjects discussed were of a general nature relating to financing of annual and five years plans, foreign trade planning and execution of large housing construction projects in urban areas.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI : There is a big reserve of coal under the seabed of the Gulf of Cambay. This coal is very deep and it is not possible to mine it. Soviet Russia has developed a technique to turn the coal into gas and to take it out in the form of gas. I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether any help is sought from the USSR for exploitation of the reserve of coal in view of the present energy crisis.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : This has to be directed to the Energy Department.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI : What are the sectors in which agreement has taken place ?

SHRI AJIT PANJA : The agreement that has taken place is general exchange of knowledge of various types of planning process, that is, how the planning process starts, how the funding is made in Soviet Russia, and also the form or the manner of funding and the process which is determined in India. It is, in fact, exchange of knowledge between the expert, of technical knowledge as to how a plan is made, how it is funded and implemented.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र : सभापति महोदय सोवियत संघ में भारत द्वारा निमित्त कंजुमर गुड्स की पिछले वर्षों में काफी अरुस्त रही है। हमारा ट्रेड भी उनके साथ लगातार बढ़ता रहा है। सोवियत संघ के साथ व्यापार में एक सुविधा है कि वहां हमारे लिए न फारेन एक्सचेंज की दिक्कत है और न वैसी कोई प्रोटेक्शनिस्ट पालिसी होती है। इसको देखते

हुए वह बाजार ज्यादा दिनों के लिए अगर सुरक्षित रहे तो उसके लिए यह भी जरूरी है कि भारत में उस तरह के स्ट्रक्चरल चेंजेज किये जायें तो इसको देखते हुए क्या लॉग में प्लानिंग इसको होगी ताकि 15 वर्ष के लिये वह बाजार हमारा रहे और उस मुताबिक भारत में हम चीजों को प्राप्त कर सकें। तो क्या भारत सरकार ने इस दिशा में कोई कदम उठाया है कि हम उनके साथ ऐसा लॉग-टर्म एग्रीमेंट करें और ..... (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All this is outside the question. Therefore, please sit down. Let him answer a few things at least.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, this does not arise out of the main question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly say something.

SHRI AJIT PANJA : Sir, only this much I can say: So far as the planning or producing consumer goods and the manner in which we are doing it are concerned, at the Planning Commission level, our experts and Soviet experts have exchanged views and we are taking the best from them and they are taking the best from us.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Very good. Now, Question No. 352, Mr. Gopalsamy.

#### **Environmental pollution in major cities in the country**

◆352. SHRI L. GANESAN:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: f

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps the Central Government are taking to contain environmental pollution in major cities in the country;

■f The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. Gopalsamy.