

Director, Regional Testing Centre

988. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR; Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the ^ reply to Unstarred Question 1420 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th December, 1980 and State:

(a) what action Government have taken against the Director, Regional Testing Centre;

(b) whether it is a fact that since December 15, 1980, he was ordered to hand over his charge;

(c) whether it is a fact that he is at large without handing over the files; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA):

(a) The matter relating to preferring wrong TA/DA claims and improper maintenance of Log Book has been entrusted to CBj who has registered a case and taken all records. As regards excess telephone calls, administrative action has been taken for settlement of the issue.

(b) Yes, Sir. The then Director, Regional Testing Centre, New Delhi, was relieved of his duties with effect from the forenoon of 15th December, 1980.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Intrusion into Indian Territorial Waters by Burmese Naval Craft

989. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in Far Eastern Economic Review of March 27 and April 2, 1981, about the intrusion into the Indian territorial waters by two Burmese Naval Craft;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Burmese Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL):- (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Burmese Naval Gun Boat was anchored off the Narcondum Island on the 8th March, 1981. Some Burmese Naval personnel landed the island but left after a short-while,

(c) Yes, Sir. The Burmese foreign office have explained that their boat was chasing some boats engaged in smuggling and inadvertently landed on the Narcondum Island.

Production of tank at Avadi

990. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the model of the tanks produced at the Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi is outdated;

(b) if so, whether there is a Proposal under Government's consideration for an alternative model; and

(c) if so, what are the proposals for the full utilisation of the machinery and the skilled work force available at H.V.F./Avadi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The improvement of weapons and equipments is a continuous process in the light of high rate of technological advancements in the modern world. In this context, we are also trying to develop our own Main Battle Tank, which will incorporate futuristic technology. The question of improving the performance of the Vijayanta Tank to increase its fire-power and survivability in the battle-field environment is also under consideration.

The entire package of proposals would be translated into action in such a manner that there is optimum utilisation of man-power and other infrastructure available at Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi.

Enhancement of cement quota for Karnataka

i. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

whether Government of Karnataka has requested the Central Government to enhance cement quota from 2.25 lakh metric tonnes to 3.25 lakh metric tonnes per quarter;

(b) whether the State Minister for Food and Civil Supplies met him for the same purpose in the recent past;

whether Government have any decision on the request; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka have requested that quarterly allocation may be raised from 2.08 lakh tonnes to 4.00 lakh tonnes. There is a general scarcity of cement in the country including Karnataka. The Government are making every effort to increase availability of cement in the country by way of better utilisation of existing capacities, sanctioning new capacities and imports. Enhanced allocation to the States including Karnataka will be possible only when the availability position of cement in the country improves. However, having regard to the requirements of the State quarterly allocation was increased from 1.98 lakh tonnes to 2.08 lakh tonnes of cement from quarters July—September, 1980. Further additional allocations of 42,000 tonnes and 40,000 tonnes have been made to the State Government during

the first quarter i.e. January-March, 1981 and second quarter i.e. April-June, 1981 respectively.

Anti-dacoit operations in States

992. Shri J. K. JAIN: Will Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some States including Uttar Pradesh Government have asked for financial and other forms of assistance in regard to anti-dacoit operations in the Cham-bal Valley, Bhind, Morena, Kanpur and other badly effected areas;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what assistance Government have been to the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). Requests have been received from the Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for assistance from the Defence Ministry for certain vehicles, weapons and equipment. It would not be in public interest to disclose their details. Government of India would take appropriate action in consultation with the two State Governments.

The Government have provided Central financial assistance amounting to Rs. 750.00 lakhs to all the State Governments, including Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, for modernisation of their State Police Forces during 1980-81. A provision of Rs. 10 crores has also been made for 1981-82. The Central assistance is intended to meet expenditure of a non-recurring nature for purchase of vehicles, wireless equipment, computers, scientific aid for investigation and training equipment. This Central assistance could be utilised by the State Governments for modernising their Police Forces also for anti-dacoity operation.

The 7th Finance Commission had also recommended a total outlay of