

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YCGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

Statement

According to information furnished by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh dated the 16th November, 1980, a Faruqi Alam procession consisting of about 2,000 persons was passing through College Bazar street in Kanpur on 14th November, 1980 when some miscreants tried to snatch an ear ring of a small girl seated in a buffalo cart in the procession. This incident led to a scuffle and exchange of a few brickbats. Police and Magistrate immediately controlled the situation with their intervention, and the procession passed peacefully. Two cases were registered, including one against the processionists for causing damage to a scooter. Patrolling throughout the city was intensified. As a sequel to this incident, exchange of brickbats and fire took place between two groups of people on the 15th November, 1980, resulting in injury to 12 persons including 2 police officials. Of the injured persons, one succumbed to his injuries. Most of the other injured persons were discharged after treatment. A total of 89 persons were arrested upto the 16th November, 1980. Curfew was imposed in the affected areas.]

Report on Rath Committee

*255. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 415 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th November, 1980 and state:

(a) whether Government have been considering a fresh re-adjustment of the consumer price index from 1980 onwards;

(b) whether any new formula has since been evolved; and

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

†[] English translation.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. VENKATA REDDY): (a) to (c) The 1960 series is now 20 years old and the consumption pattern of the working class has changed considerably since then. It has, therefore, been decided that a fresh family living survey should be conducted during 1980-81.

Rusting of Light, Medium and Heavy Armaments

*256. SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI:

SHRIMATI PRATIMA BOSE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the effect that Government desire to sell nearly 1.5 million pieces of light, medium and heavy armaments now rusting in various parts of the country;

(b) whether Government have also seen the reports in press of high level corruption where Mr. Michell who was agent to fix the deal has passed on huge sums to Defence Officers and other concerned.

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether Government have investigated or propose to investigate into the allegations; and

(e) whether the Defence Officers who opposed this sale were transferred from their places of posting to different places?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI. MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Certain light, medium and heavy armament items are declared obsolete or obsolescent from time to time following well established procedure and detailed scrutiny at appropriate levels. They are inspected at laid down intervals to ensure that they are stored in conditions as prescribed in various regulations.

(b) to (e) No, Sir. There were some press reports about negotiations for sale of Centurian tanks through Mr. Michell. The negotiations were called off by the Government in early June, 1980.