

November, 1979. The proposed purchase was not found permissible within the present guidelines under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

(f) Government would keep the performance of the Screening Committee under review from time to time. There is, however, no proposal to reconstitute it at present.

Cement Corporation of India

*132. SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:

SHRI R. R. MORARKA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the manpower employed in the Cement Corporation of India Ltd. is higher than the sanctioned strength;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) what steps are being taken or are proposed to be taken to reduce the manpower strength to the established norms in the Cement Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The manpower of the Corporation is determined on the basis of the provisions made in the detailed project report and is reviewed by internal engineering studies and their internal committees appointed from time to time. As the actual manpower strength in the Corporation is less than the authorised strength, the question of reduction does not arise.

Components for Shaktiman Vehicle

*133. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Defence Supplies had

to import large quantity of components for Shaktiman vehicle at a cost of Rs. 80/- each as against the rate of Rs. 6.22, each for similar indigenous components;

(b) whether these imported components were found defective; and

(c) if so, what is the loss involved in the transaction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND DEPARTMENTS UNDER THE CHARGE OF PRIME MINISTER (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) The Hon'ble Member is apparently referring to the import of the component 'Push Rod Assembly' for Shaktiman trucks. As the indigenous supply was found defective, the component had to be imported to keep up the production of the vehicle.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Scheme for utilisation of natural wealth of the Malnad areas

*134. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU:

SHRI BAPURAOJI MAROTRAOJI DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for the utilisation of natural wealth of the Malnad areas has been prepared; and

(b) whether any programme has been drawn up for the development of Malnad areas?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI NARAIN DUTT TIWARI): (a) and (b) The requisite material is being collected from the State Government and would be laid on the Table of the House.