

loping shortages in certain key industrial areas.

(b) The Government has taken a number of steps to meet the situation. These are both short term and medium term. With a view to increasing production and availability in 1978-79 a number of decisions were taken which provided for making special efforts for achievement of targets already set for critical industries (power, coal, steel, fertilizers and non-ferrous metals); setting up of higher production targets in selected industries (paper, cement, commercial vehicles, wagons and textiles produced by the National Textile Corporation Mills); advance planning of imports and buffer stocking of crucial inputs; and continuous monitoring and coordination.

To achieve a better demand-supply balance in the medium term, the Draft Five Year Plan 1978-83 provides for a number of measures. It provides on better utilisation of capacities in those industries where the adequate capacities have already been created. In some other industries like cement, fertilizers, paper, drugs and pharmaceuticals, etc. it is proposed to create additional capacities so as to meet the anticipated requirements. The Plan also envisages imports in a number of cases like steel, non-ferrous metals, fertilizers, drugs and pharmaceuticals to fill the gap between demand and domestic production.

A Special Cabinet Committee has been set up to continuously monitor the production in crucial sectors and suggest timely measures to meet likely shortages.

Issue of letters of intent and industrial licences

769. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of letters of intent and industrial licences issued for expansion and for starting new

cement projects during 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 and for what capacity; and

(b) what is the number of letters of intent and industrial licences issued for such purpose since April, 1977 till to date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) 7 Letters of Intent and 11 Industrial Licences for a total capacity of 84.60 lakh tonnes were issued from 1st April, 1974 upto 31st March, 1977.

(b) 35 letters of intent and 7 industrial licences for a total capacity of 150.50 lakh tonnes were issued from 1st April, 1977 upto the 30th April, 1979.

Master Plan for Self-employed Youths in the Country

770. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any master plan for self-employment of youths in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI FAZLUR RAHMAN): (a) and (b). One of the principal objectives of the Draft Plan 1978-83 is the removal of unemployment and significant under-employment within a period of 10 years. The Plan envisages expansion in self-employment opportunities in different sectors of the economy. Among the provisions directed especially to this end are arrangements for the banks to provide loans at concessional rates of interest for viable schemes of self-employment in activities allied to agriculture and in small-scale industries. There are also schemes for the provision of margin money to those set-

ting up new small industries and business. The Reserve Bank of India in its guidelines issued on 12th December, 1978 has urged banks to aim at providing credits to at least two additional borrowers per branch per month to promote self-employment. The District Industries Centres which are being set up in different parts of the country will assist the unemployed to prepare appropriate schemes and to obtain finance from the banks to launch them.

Profit in HMT International Limited

771. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the net profit in H.M.T. International Limited has come down from rupees 22 lakhs in 1976-77 to rupees 5 lakhs in 1977-78;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the reasons for incurring additional expenses of rupees 10 lakhs on travelling and an additional expense of rupees 10 lakhs for deputing a team of specialists to Iraq during the year 1977-78?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) to (c) The profit of HMT (International) Limited in 1977-78 was Rs. 4.72 lakhs as against Rs. 21.92 lakhs in 1976-77. The fall in profits was due mainly to increased expenditure on promotional activities. Since HMT (International) is engaged mainly in exports and participation in engineering projects abroad, significant expenditure has to be incurred on promotional activities relating to tours abroad and towards development of its offices abroad. 15 persons were deputed to Iraq for executing a contract relating to erection and commissioning of machines. The investments required for promotional activities including travelling expenses for tours abroad are yield-

ing results in terms of increased profitability of the Company during 1978-79. The overall working results for the year is expected to show a profit of over Rs. 50 lakhs.

Grade IV Posts in Indian Statistical Service

772. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Grade IV posts in the Indian Statistical Service are held by the departmental employees on ad hoc basis against the regular vacancies for more than six months;

(b) whether it is a fact that a substantial number of officers are holding ad hoc Grade IV posts in Indian Statistical Services for as long as 7-8 years, and what steps Government are taking to regularise their appointment;

(c) whether it is a fact that Statistical Investigators (Class II posts) in the Ministry of Defence (ASO) were not included in the first feeder panel prepared by the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms in the year 1968 for promotion to Grade IV of the Indian Statistical Service whereas persons holding similar appointments in other participating Ministries/Departments were included in this panel;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) what remedial steps Government propose to take to accord justice to the affected individuals of the Ministry of Defence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) The number of posts in Grade IV of the Indian Statistical Service held on an ad hoc basis for more than six months is 150.

(b) Yes, Sir. In accordance with the Indian Statistical Service Rules, 75