

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The review has indicated that the work is directed towards developing indigenous capability for designing and fabricating spacecraft and achieving launch capability. The review has also indicated that for a country of the size of India, space systems are eminently suited for application of space research for identified large scale national tasks such as rapid enhancement of literacy and national integration through mass communications and the effective and timely management of our natural resources and providing warnings for natural disasters and monitoring their effects.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A Down Range Station for tracking and receiving telemetry data from the SLV-3 launch vehicle has been set up in the Nicobar Islands. This will monitor the separation of the fourth stage of the SLV-3 launch vehicle.

Central Government's proposals for annual plan for States

689. SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH:
SHRI SYED AHMAD
HASHMI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Chief Ministers have refused to accept the Central Government's proposals for their respective annual State plans; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI FAZLUR RAHMAN): (a) and (b) Outlays in the States' Annual Plans have not yet been fully determined. These plans are prepared in consultation with the Planning Commission and not the Central Government as such.

Shortage of chassis in the country

690. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of chassis of trucks/buses in the country;

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

(c) whether there is any scheme under Government's consideration to give the work relating to the production of chassis of trucks/buses to the unemployed graduates and Harijans in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI): (a) and (b) There is an increase in demand for chassis of trucks and buses specially in respect of preferred makes relating to TELCO and ASHOK LAYLAND. Steps have been taken to increase the availability of commercial vehicles. With the progressive augmentation of production it is expected that the situation of short supply will ease appreciably in the near future.

(c) No, Sir. Production, that is, manufacture of truck/bus chassis involves complexities of organised technological production at substantial capital costs.

(d) Does not arise.

Affairs of the National Jute Mill, Howrah

691. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 864 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th July, 1978 and state:

(a) what steps Government have taken so far to help the National Jute Mill, Howrah which was facing acute financial stringency;