

the State Transport Authority has delegated some of its powers to certain officers of the Directorate of Transport.

Mini-cement plants in the country

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

(a) what are the incentives which have been given by the Central Government to the State Governments for entrepreneurs to set up mini-cement plants in the country; and

(b) what are the details regarding the quota of such plants sanctioned by the Central Government during last one year for the State Governments especially for Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) The Mini Cement Plants with capacities on 200 tonnes per day (66,000 tonnes per annum) have been allowed the following incentives:—

(i) The ex-works price of cement produced by the mini cement plants would be the same as the price admissible to new large sized plants viz., Rs. 296/- per tonne. This price will be assured for a period of five years from the date of going into commercial

(ii) Mini cement plants will be allowed a rebate in the payment of excise duty upto 50 per cent for a period of five years;

(iii) While mini cement plants will be subject to price control under the Cement Control Order and shall not sell cement at a price higher than the controlled price, they will be exempt from distribution control under the Cement Control Order, 1967. The mini cement plants will bear their own distribution costs and will not be required to adjust the freight

element with the Cement Regulation Account. The other elements in the F.O.R. destination price of cement will, however, be subject to adjustment with the Cement Regulation Account as per the existing provisions;

(iv) Mini cement plants set up in hilly and remote areas will be eligible for additional excise duty relief and/or cash subsidy on merit;

(v) Mini cement plants will also be eligible for all other existing incentives and facilities available under the Income Tax Act and/or under other schemes offered by the State Governments.

These incentives are admissible to all the entrepreneurs proposing to set up mini cement plants. No special incentives have been allowed to the State Governments.

(b) No State-wise quota for mini cement plants has been fixed.

Development of battery-powered van

220. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Committee on Science and Technology has evolved a project for development of a half-tonned battery-powered van;

(b) whether the Research, Designs and Standards Organization of the Ministry of Railways has been assigned with the responsibility to develop traction motors; and

(c) whether the BHEL and the Vehicles Research and Development Establishment have received designs and prototypes of traction motor from the RDSO, Lucknow?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) The Department of Science and Technology has taken up an experimental project for developing prototype of a

half-tonne battery-powered vehicle.

(b) Yes.

(c) The designs and prototypes have been received but considerable improvements are needed before the designs can be considered satisfactory for practical use.

Electronic devices for railway driver's alertness

221. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Electronics Corporation of India Ltd. has developed and manufactured Railway drivers alertness device by exploiting know-how developed by Railway Engineers;

(b) whether the ECIL has received orders for supply of these electronic devices from the various units of Indian Railways; and

(c) whether it is a fact that some zonal railways including the Western Zonal railways are ignoring ECIL-products in preference to multi-national Siemens products?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) The Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL) has developed and manufactured Automatic Warning System (AWS) equipment on the basis of the specifications furnished by the Ministry of Railways.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

Report of the National Police Commission

222. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of the National Police Commission;

(b) by when the report is likely to be placed on the Table of the House;

(c) whether it is a fact that part of the report has been leaked out to the 'Indian Express';

(d) whether a member of the Commission got self-publicity and pecuniary benefits by contributing articles in the Indian Express; and

(e) whether the Police Commission Chairman was found guilty of impropriety in his conduct by the Central Bureau of Investigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK IAL MANDAL):

(a) Yes, Sir. The National Police Commission has submitted its first Report on the 7th February, 1979.

(b) Copies of the Report are under print and will be laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha in due course.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) More than one member have been getting articles published in the Press including "Indian Express" to generate public interest and seek public response in the connected problems, in a variety of ways.

(e) C.B.I. did not find him guilty of impropriety during his incumbency as Chairman of the National Police Commission.

Treaty of Pondicherry regarding its cession with India

223. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 1956 Treaty of Cession of Pondicherry with India contains any clause to the effect that its status can be changed only after ascertaining the wishes of the people; and

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