

Subsequently the Satpura Thermal Extension project with an installation of two units of 210 MW (8th and 9th units) has been approved by the Planning Commission. In addition, the Central Government has accorded approval to the establishment of a Super Thermal Power Station at Korba with the first stage installation of 1100 MW. A share will be available from this project to Madhya Pradesh State:

Recognition of Setti Baliji Community as a backward class

*344. SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-PATRO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Khammam District Setti Baliji Sangham, Kothagudiam collieries, Andhra Pradesh regarding recognition of the Setti Baliji Community as a backward class;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that Setti Baliji Community is recognised as a backward class in Visakhapatnam and Godavari Districts of Andhra Pradesh but is not recognised as such in Khammam District;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for this anomaly; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to grant recognition to the Community in Khammam District also?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The community in question has been treated by the Government of Andhra Pradesh as a Backward Class on the basis of the recommendations made by the Backward Classes Commission set up by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(e) The matter primarily concerns the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Suggestion for the transfer of 'Electricity' from the Concurrent List to the Union List in the Constitution

*345. SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Power Engineers' Federation at their meeting held on the 5th February, 1978 at Delhi suggested the transfer of the subject of 'electricity' from the Concurrent List to the Union List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution and the formulation of a national power policy; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. This has been reported in the newspapers.

(b) Existing legal framework enables Central participation and guidance in power development to the required extent. The Electricity (Supply) Act of 1948, which governs the organisational structure of electricity supply industry in the country, has recently been amended to enable development of a sound, adequate and uniform national power policy and formulation and co-ordination of short-term and perspective plans for power development effectively at the central level.

Losses expected in the Heavy Engineering Corporation

*346. SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIBULLAH:
SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL:
SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA:
SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Heavy Engineering Corporation is

anticipating heavy losses during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Heavy Engineering Corporation is likely to incur a loss of about Rs. 25 crores during the year 1977-78.

Running of computers centres by the IBM employees

*347. DR. Z. A. AHMAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of the IBM have decided to run by themselves the computer and the card manufacturing centres; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) and (b) Government is aware that IBM have a proposal under consideration to hand over their existing activities relating to card manufacture and operation of Data Centres to a private limited company with the former employees of the company as shareholders. Details of the proposal are awaited from the company and Government will come to a decision only after the details are received.

Statement by Minister regarding atrocities on Harijans

*348. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Minister of Shipping and Transport is reported to have stated recently

at Amritsar, as reported in the Press, that incidents of atrocities on Harijans and other backward classes were increasing and that people should join hands with the poor in waging a war against poverty and untouchability and for resisting atrocities with courage; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH):

(a) The Government have seen a news item datelined Amritsar the 30th January, 1978, on the Minister's (Shri Chand Ram's) address in the Conference of the depressed classes, but he did not say that incidents of atrocities on Harijans and other backward classes were increasing.

(b) Offences against members of the Scheduled Castes come within the definition of 'Public Order' which is a State subject according to Scheduled VI of the Constitution, and substantive action under the law has to be taken by the State Government concerned. However, the Centre keeps in close touch with the State Governments and offers suggestions to them from time to time to expedite measures aimed at removing the basic factors responsible for such incidents and for strengthening the administrative machinery to ensure prompt and effective action in all such cases and to provide protection to and instil a sense of security among the weaker sections.

Ceiling on the production of motor pump sets

*349. SHRI U. R. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have fixed a ceiling on the production of motor pump sets by large companies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a)