

no energy contribution from this third unit which is proposed as a standby.

An earlier proposal for installing a 1x10 MW Gas Turbine Power plant has been technically examined and the State authorities advised to resubmit the scheme after obtaining confirmation in respect of availability of gas from the concerned authorities.

Investigations on some Micro Hydel scheme being carried out by the Tri-pura authorities have not yet been completed.

Guidelines for the amalgamation of sick industrial units with healthy ones

466. SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have circulated any draft guidelines for the amalgamation of sick industrial units with the healthy ones;

(b) if so, what are the broad outlines thereof;

(c) whether Government have consulted the trade unions in the matter and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to consult the trade unions before finalising the guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Central Government have amended the Income Tax Act, 1961 with a view to encouraging amalgamation of sick units with healthy ones, as a result of which certain tax concessions would be available, under certain conditions, to the amalgamated Company. The Central Government have finalised guidelines on the conditions to be fulfilled in regard to the eligibility for tax concessions. The details of the scheme and the guidelines are given in the attached statement. [See Appendix CIV Annexure No. 32]

(c) and (d) The guidelines have been formulated in consultation with the Ministry of Labour but not with the Trade Unions. The guidelines take care of the interests of labour,

which will also be a relevant factor in the consideration of applications for tax concessions.

Suggestion made by West Bengal's Finance Minister on Central Subsidies

467. SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government's attention has been drawn to a statement reported to have made by Dr. Ashok Mitra, Finance and Planning Minister of West Bengal, at a press conference held on the 23rd January, 1978 to the effect that savings could be made in respect of food subsidies, (totalling about Rs. 475 crores), export subsidies to big industrialists (Rs. 275 crores) and fertiliser subsidies to relatively affluent farmers (Rs. 150 crores) and that the rail freight subsidy and the hidden subsidy through the banking system should be subjected to a scrutiny by the Central Government"; and

(b) what is the Central Government's reaction thereto?

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

(b) It is the Government's policy to review all subsidies and to reduce them progressively. In doing so, the effects of such economies on commodity prices and the cost of living would be borne in mind.

Requirement of bases for Car Nicobar-

468. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: SHRI R. D. JAGTAP AVERGOANKAR; SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN: SHRI JAGAN NATH BHARDWAJ: SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD ' SHAHI: SHRI LALBUAIA;

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that there is only one bus in Car Nicobar causing great difficulty to local residents and the school-going children who have to wait for the bus for long hours;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a bus acquired for Car Nicobar is awaiting transportation from Port Blair for over six months;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out the requirement of buses in Car Nicobar;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what is the number of buses proposed to be put in service at Car Nicobar in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The delay in transshipment of the bus from Port Blair to Car Nicobar is due to difficulty in landing the vehicle ashore during rough weather conditions. The local Naval authorities have promised to transport the bus lying in Port Blair during the current fair weather season.

(c) to (e) A survey was conducted by the Transport Department of the Administration to assess the requirements of additional buses at Car Nicobar. It is estimated that, in addition to the one bus awaiting transshipment from Port Blair, four buses will be needed during the next Five Year Plan period. Necessary provision for these additional buses has been included in that Plan.

सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय के अधीन कार्यालयों में द्विभाषिक नाम-फलक

469. डा० लोकेश चन्द्र : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उनके मंत्रालय के दिल्ली स्थित सभी कार्यालयों में नाम फलक द्विभाषी हैं ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इन कार्यालयों में सभी नाम फलकों को कब तक दोनों भाषाओं में कर देने का प्रस्ताव है ?

Bi-lingual name plates in the offices under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

469. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether bi-lingual name plates are being used in all the offices located in Delhi under his Ministry; and

(b) if not, by when all the name plates are proposed to be made bilingual in these offices?]

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी) : (क) और (ख) जी, हाँ । तथापि, फिल्म प्रभाग के दिल्ली कार्यालय में अधिकारियों और अनुभागों के नाम पट्टे इस समय प्रयोग में नहीं हैं । वे जब भी बनवाए जायेंगे वे द्विभाषिक होंगे ।

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI LAL K. ADVANI.): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, no name plates for officers and Sections are at present in use in the Delhi office of the Films Division. As and when they are made, they will be in bi-lingual form.]