

Shifting of the Head Office of the Coal India Ltd., from Calcutta

760. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to shift the Head Office of the Coal India Limited from Calcutta to some other place;

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

(c) what is the number of officers and other employees, separately, at present working in the offices of the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries in Calcutta; and

(d) whether Government have any plan to reorganise these offices in Calcutta and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Government has no plan at present to shift the Head Office of the Coal India Limited from Calcutta.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 248 Officers and 1635 other employees are working in the Offices of Coal Limited and its subsidiaries at Calcutta.

(d) The Government has no plan at present to reorganise these offices in Calcutta.

Shortage of Cargo for Vessels Sailing between Calcutta and Gauhati

761. SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN:

SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vessels sailing on the river Brahmaputra between Calcutta and Gauhati

are at a stand-still for event of cargo at Calcutta; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) The service operated by CIWTC between Calcutta and Gauhati has been closed for want of cargo

(b) The following steps have been taken to ease the situation:—

(i) The state Government of Assam has been requested to offer its traffic to CIWTC and to indicate the likely quantity of its traffic so that services may be planned accordingly.

(ii) CIWTC has been instructed to invite offers for giving out its vessels to private parties, who may be able to procure traffic, on charter basis.

Demand for Arakan State

762. SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Naga and Mizo hostiles are intensifying their activities on the Indo-Burma border in collaboration with the Burmese rebels who have been agitating for the creation of an independent sovereign Arakan State; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) The Government is aware of the presence of some Indian Naga and Mizo underground in the Burmese territory across our international border with Burma. There has been no report of intensification of their activities along our border.

(b) Strict Vigil continues to be maintained in this regard.

Amendments to the Cantonments Act

763. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum on the 30th September, 1977 from Shri Moin Ansari, a Member of the Cantonment Board, Dinapore, Bihar regarding amendment of the Cantonment Act, 1924;

(b) whether Government have received a similar memorandum from the some Members of the Bihar Legislative Assembly and the Bihar Leg-

islative Council recently; and

(c) if the answers to part (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the details thereof and what action Government propose to take thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

No memorandum dated 30th September 1977 has been received by Government from Shri Moin Ansari. A memorandum dated 1st Sept. 1977 from Shri M. H. Ansari and few other MLAs/MLCs has been received through an MP. Details of the memorandum and action taken on the points are as under:—

Point

(i) Term of elected members should be increased from 3 years to 5 years.

The last elections in Dinapore Cantt. were held on 20-2-77 and the next elections will be due only in 1980. Provision for extension of the term of elected members of Cantt. Board to 5 years will be included in the proposed amendments to the Cantt. Act, 1924, a bill in respect of which is expected to be introduced in Parliament in the next Budget Session.

(ii) Cantt. Board Dinapore does not sanction building plans on the plea that sites on old grant are not converted into free hold.

Under the revised land policy, in bungalow areas on sites held on old grant repairs/renovations/ construction/ reconstruction etc., can be carried out only if the plinth area is not exceeded and there is no subdivision on plots or change of purpose. In civil areas also similar conditions will apply but these conditions may be exceeded if the occupancy holder gets the tenure converted into freehold. Wherever these conditions are violated sanctions are not to be given by the Cantt. Board/Civil Area Committee and whenever such sanctions are given GOC-in-C will have to exercise his powers to suspend/set aside the resolution.

(iii) Powers of GOC-in-C to set aside sanctions of civil area committee/Board should be deleted.

For the reasons explained in the previous item it is not necessary to change the existing arrangement.

(iv) The rates for conversion of old grant into freehold should not be excessive.

Such conversions will have to be on payment of market value but for plots measuring less than 300 sq. metres a graded scale varying from 25% to 75% of market value has already been prescribed as a concession.

(v) Adequate funds should be given to Cantt. Board for repairs of conservancy vehicles, roads, drainage, construction of library cum Reading Room.

Repairs to roads, drains etc., are to be catered for by the ordinary grant in aid. During 1977-78 Rs. 3.4 lakhs has already been released as ordinary grant in aid. Additional funds will be released subject to availability on receipt of Revised Estimates of the Board.

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