

(b) and (c) No, Sir. It is not a fact that jute mills have recently closed down due to non availability of raw jute.

Cement shortage in the capital

1209. SHRI DHARAMCHAND

JAIN:

SHRI DAYANAND SAHAYA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of cement in Delhi;

(b) whether Government are aware that there is no dearth of cement in Delhi in the black market; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) to (c) As against the average quarterly despatches of 1.05 lakh tonnes to Delhi during 1977, the actual despatches were 1.15 lakh tonnes during the first quarter of 1978. The allocations during the second and third quarters of 1978 were 1.21 lakh tonnes per quarter excluding the special allotment of 10,000 tonnes and 5,000 tonnes each made during these two quarters for special slum clearance works. The shortage of cement felt in Delhi is part of the country-wide shortages due to the demand outstripping supply on account of greatly increased construction activities especially since April 1977.

The Delhi Administration have taken several steps to eliminate malpractices by certain unsocial elements in cement trade. Since 1st January 1978, FIRs have been lodged against 41 persons found dealing in unauthorised sale of cement and 1962 bags of cement stored unauthorisedly were seized. FIRs have also been lodged against 49 persons who were found transferring cement obtained by them against ration cards. Licences

of 15 cement stockists have been suspended and four other licences have been cancelled for irregularities. The distribution system has been streamlined and effective arrangements have been made for allotment of cement for house-building, minor repair etc. In order to overcome the shortages in railway wagons, steps have also been taken to move more cement to Delhi by road.

New police set up for Delhi

1210. SHRI DHARAMCHAND

JAIN:

SHRI DAYANAND SAHAYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the new police set up introduced in Delhi; and

(b) what are the advantages of this new set up and what steps Government have taken to allay the fear in the public mind that the additional powers given to the police under the new set up might be misused?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) and (b) Under the new set up the powers of general control and direction over the Administration of the Police will now vest in the Commissioner of Police instead of the District Magistrate. Also, the powers and functions of the District Magistrate and Executive Magistrate under such provisions of Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 as may be specified by the Central Government will be exercisable by the Commissioner of Police and other police functionaries. Powers of a District Magistrate under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure have been conferred on the Commissioner of Police and powers of an Executive Magistrate under section 107 Cr. P.C. have been conferred on the Commissioner of Police and other police officers not below the rank of an Assistant Commissioner of Police. In addition, powers and functions of the District

Magistrate under certain enactments specified in the Delhi Police Ordinance will be exercised by the Commissioner of Police.

Under the new system the police is expected to quickly respond to situations and improve their efficiency in the primary task of crime control and maintenance of law and order. The Police Commissioner system is already in vogue in some of the important cities including Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

Acquittal of Anand Marg Chief by the Patna High Court

1211. SHRI DHARAMCHAND JAIN:

SHRI DAYANAND SAHAYA:

SHRI SITARAM KESRI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri P. R. Sarkar, Anand Marg Chief and four others, accused of murder, have been acquitted by a Division Bench of the Patna High Court; and

(b) whether Government propose to file an appeal to the Supreme Court against the order of acquittal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is being examined.

Dutta Committee report on newspaper economics

1212. SHRI SITARAM KESRI:

SHRI DHARAMCHAND JAIN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dutta Committee on Newspaper Economics submitted its report to Government in 1975;

(b) if so, what are the main recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in taking a decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI LAL K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The findings of the Dutta Committee on Newspaper Economics and decision taken by Government thereon are given in the statement attached. [See Appendix CVI Annexure No. 70.]

(c) The Report contained various recommendations which had to be considered in consultation with other Ministries and decision taken thereon.

1213. [Transferred to the 11th August, 1978].

Correspondence between States in Hindi

1214. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the States which have agreed to have correspondence in Hindi with the Central Government and with other Hindi speaking States; and

(b) what is the progress of implementation of their decision in having correspondence in Hindi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) and (b) Besides the Hindi-speaking States, the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Punjab have agreed to correspond in Hindi with the Central Government and the progress in this regard vis-a-vis the Hindi-speaking States is satisfactory. Communications from the three non-Hindi-speaking States mentioned above are, however, being received mostly in English.