

The number of letters of intent industrial licences granted in each State during April, 1977 to 30th June, 1978 are as follows:—

State	No. of New units
Madhya Pradesh . . .	1
Andhra Pradesh . . .	3
Rajasthan . . . . .	8
Uttar Pradesh . . . . .	1
Maharashtra . . . . .	1
Gujarat . . . . .	2

(b) The criterion followed for granting permission for setting up of cement factories are availability of raw materials, and other infrastructural facilities like coal, power, rail transport, experience of the entrepreneur, viability of the project etc.

**Persons convicted under the protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955**

411. SHRI L. R. NAIK:

SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:

SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases registered, taken to Courts, compounded acquitted and convicted under the provisions of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 since its enforcement on the 19th November, 1976 in each State and Union Territory; and

(b) what steps have been taken to establish special courts to deal with such cases in each State and Union Territory?

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

(a) Statistics relating to cases under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 are collected for calendar years. In-

formation received so far for the calendar year 1977 is given in the annexed Statement. [See Appendix CVI, Annexure No. 34].

(b) In pursuance of the provisions of section 15A of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, the State Governments may set up special courts for the trial of offences under the Act if they deem necessary. According to the information available, no such special courts for the purpose seen to have been set up in any State or U.T.

**Meetings of the High Power Committee on the Welfare of Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes**

412. SHRI S. W. DHABE:

SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) when the last meeting of the High Powered Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was held and what issues concerning advancement of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were discussed and decided; and

(b) what is the frequency of such meetings in a year?

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

(a) and (b) Presumably, the reference is to the High Power Committee to review the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the services. The Committee met last on the 12th November, 1976 and the question of its reconstitution is at present under consideration of Government. Important issues discussed/decided at the last meeting covered the following:

(i) Relaxation of standards in the case of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates in departmental qualifying examinations for promotion to higher grades.