

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 Scheduled 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.

(ii) Application, to the extent possible of the general principle of reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in appointment to 'work-charged' posts except those relating to emergent situations like flood relief, accident relief etc.

(iii) Question of intensive training being given to tribal candidates at the Pre-Examination Training Centres for IAS etc. Examination.

Setback in industrial output due to power shortage

413. SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL
URF PIARE LALL TALIB:
SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:
SHRI JAGDISH JOSHI:
SHRI BUDDHA PRIYA
MAURYA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power shortage continues to be the main contributory factor to the setback in the industrial output;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no likelihood of any improvement in the situation in the near future; and

(c) if so, what are Government's plans to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Power shortage in some areas of the country is one of the contributing factors to fall in output from some power intensive industries in those areas.

(b) No, Sir. The power supply position in the country has improved considerably during the last few months and power cuts and restrictions on various categories of consumers in a number of States have either been completely lifted or have been reduced. This trend will continue. During the period April to June, 1978, there has been an increase

in power generation by about 15 per cent over the power generation during the corresponding period last year.

(c) Government has taken a number of steps to improve the power availability in the country. These measures include accelerated additions to the generating capacity, maximising generation from the existing installed capacity, integrated operation of different power systems for optimising the hydro-thermal mix and to get the surplus of power in some areas to meet the requirements of other areas which have shortages.

Over-crowding on Shipping Lines

414. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:
SHRI BUDDHA PRIYA
MAURYA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that 1300 passengers were accommodated by the authorised travel agents which was far in excess of the available accommodation on a recent pleasure cruise on board the "Noor Jahan" of the Mughal Line; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) No, Sir. The Travel Corporation of India, who had chartered the vessel from the Mogul Line Ltd., are reported to have booked 1258 passengers, against the capacity of 1745 passengers.

(b) Does not arise.

Purchase of explosive from multinational concern

415. SHRI KALYAN ROY:
SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state: