

(v/i) The output in certain industries was adversely affected because of unsatisfactory industrial relations.

A series of steps have been taken to give boost to industrial investment and industrial production. These include the following :

(a) In order to ensure fuller utilisation of existing capacity, Government recognised in respect of units engaged in 65 priority industries, enhanced capacity upto double the licensed capacity subject to certain conditions and safeguards.

(b) In February, 1973 Government announced a revised licensing policy in order to bring about clarity and certainty in investment climate.

(c) A guideline for 110 industries has been published for the particular benefits of small, medium and new entrepreneurs.

(d) A Secretariat for Industrial Approvals has been set up and has started functioning from 1st November, 1973. The purpose of this Organisation is to streamline licensing procedures and eliminate delays in Government approvals.

(e) A number of relaxations in Import Policy have been introduced to help industry to get over production bottlenecks and temporary shortages of components and other materials which are normally available indigenously but which may be in temporary shortages in the country. The Import Policy for the small scale units has also been liberalised. Import of steel and non-ferrous metals for all small scale actual users has been allowed. A growth factor in import entitlement has been allowed to small scale industries. A major relaxation has been given to industries faced with sudden and unanticipated shortages of critical materials to import items otherwise restricted upto 5 per cent of their entitlement without the need for prior concurrence or approval.

(f) Government have under consideration a proposal to permit diversification in machinery industries within the overall licensed capacity in each unit. This measure would enable machinery manufacturers to make the most diversified and fullest use of their licensed capacities consistent with changing demands.

Election to the Delhi Sikh Gurdwaras Management Committee

*46. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 262 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd November, 1973 and to state by when the elections to the Delhi Sikh Gurdwaras Management Committee are likely to be held ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : Some procedural difficulties in the holding of elections have come to notice and action has been initiated for removing them. Once these difficulties are resolved, appropriate arrangements for conducting the elections will be made.

*47. [Transferred to the 11th February, 1974.]

Communal Riots in Meerut

♦48. SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER: SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO : SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have examined the report of the Fact Finding Committee appointed to investigate the causes of communal flare-up in Meerut in December, 1973; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No fact finding Committee was appointed by Government to investigate the causes of communal flare-up in Meerut in December, 1973.

(b) Does not arise.

*49. [Transferred to the 26th February 1974.]

' Working of Delhi Administration

♦50. SHRI S. KUMARAN : SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are serious differences between the Lieutenant Governor and the