

(b) if so, what were the precise proposals discussed during the talks; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI UMASHANKAR DIKSHIT): (a) As the House is aware, Sheikh Abdullah has made several statements to the effect that he regards himself committed to the act of accession of the State of Jammu and Kashmir to India. After consulting the State Government, Government agreed that Shri G. Parthasarathy might meet Sheikh Abdullah's nominee Shri Afzal Beg to have an exchange of ideas.

(b) Discussions have so far been of an exploratory nature and no specific proposals have emerged.

(c) The discussions are still going on.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE EMPLOYEES OF ANDREW AND YULE COMPANY

*90. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the employees of M/s Andrew and Yule Company inviting the attention of Government to the fact that there was move (i) to reconstitute the Board of Directors and (ii) also at the same time to sell the shares of the non-resident shareholders to Government; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination of Government.

171. [Transferred to the 28th February, 1973],

EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

172. DR. Z. A. AHMAD:

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR:

SHRI J. S. TILAK:

SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH

MUSFIR: SHRI

KRISHAN KANT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing criticism of the existing administrative structure;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to restructure the administrative system to suit the growing and changing socio-economic requirements of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIDHRA) (a) and (b) Government are aware of the need to improve the existing administrative system and are making continuous efforts to review and restructure it to meet the changing socio-economic requirements of the country.

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES FOR ECONOMIC PROGRAMME

173. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA:

SHRI N. G. GORAY: SHRI

GANESH LAL MALI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have set up a seven-member Minister's Committee to recommend the administrative changes both at the Central and in the States;

(b) if so, what are the terms of reference of this Committee;

(c) what is the difference between the Administrative Reforms Commission and this Committee and similar Committees set up in different States

and by what time their reports are likely to be available;

(d) whether the seven-member committee will coordinate the work of these committees; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the appointment of this seven-member Committee?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (e) A six-member Committee of Ministers has been set up to recommend such changes as are required to improve administrative performance in relation to the requirements of the Plan. The Committee will adopt such procedures and methods of Work as it considers advisable.

ANNUAL PLAN OF BIHAR

174. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual plan of the State of Bihar for the year 1973-74 has been approved; and

(b) if so, the outlay, the growth targets—(agricultural, industrial, and per-capita income, and targets in respect of various social services, health, family planning, education etc., contemplated thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The outlay approved by the Planning Commission for the Annual Plan 1973-74—Bihar amounts to Rs. 133.04 crores. As regards the determination of physical targets in relation to the outlay approved, the Government of Bihar have been requested to furnish the same which, when received, will be placed on the Table of the House.

ALLOCATION OF FIFTH PLAN IN WEST BENGAL

175. SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI: SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI:

Will the minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of Fifth Plan investment as envisaged in the approach paper submitted by the State Planning Board of West Bengal;

(b) whether any final decision has been taken regarding allocation of Fifth Plan fund; and

(c) if not, by when the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) In its Approach Paper, the State Planning Board of West Bengal has envisaged a total investment of Rs. 4600 crores during the Fifth Plan period.

(b) and (c) A final decision regarding the plan investments to be made in West Bengal will be available only when the details of the Fifth Five Year Plan have been finalised by the Planning Commission in consultation with the Central Ministries and the State Governments. It is anticipated that the required details will be available by the end of March, 1974.

MODIFICATION IN JOINT SECTOR STRATEGY

176. SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE; SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: SHRI GANESH LAL MALI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the precise manner in which the projected joint sector strategy for the Fifth Five Year Plan is a modification upon the joint sector visualised under the Industrial Policy Resolutions of 1948 and 1956;