

(b) Detailed discussions were held recently with representatives of individual undertakings in order to analyse their performance and to ascertain major bottlenecks which hamper improved performance. These bottlenecks have been identified and steps are being taken to overcome them.

1026. [*Transferred to the 29th August, 1971*]

ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

1027. SHRI ABU ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State whether as a humane gesture during the 25th anniversary of Indian Independence, Government propose to keep in abeyance capital punishment until it is legally abolished in due course?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): The question of abolition of capital punishment is being considered in all its aspects, in connection with the proposals for comprehensive revision of the Indian Penal Code. In connection with the 25th Independence Jayanti, however, it has been decided that in respect of death sentences awarded by courts, the President would be pleased to exercise his prerogative of mercy in the cases of all prisoners against whom the death sentence has been awarded on or before the 15th August, 1972 and commute the sentence in each case to one of imprisonment for life except where the Government feel that owing to brutality or heinousness of offences or otherwise, the clemency should not be shown.

POLICE DRIVE AGAINST CYCLISTS IN DELHI

1028. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a drive to educate the cyclists was launched in certain congested parts of Delhi to improve the traffic there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) Yes.

(b) To educate the cyclists, a special traffic enforcement drive was launched by the Delhi Police from 12th to 27th June, 1972. A number of hoardings giving road safety rules for cyclists were installed at important places from where cyclists pass. Cyclists were stopped at the

hoardings and road safety rules were explained to them by the Delhi Police. Road safety instructions were broadcast through the public address system from three vans stationed at important road intersections. A large number of hand bills were distributed among the cyclists in this regard. In course of the drive, help of 16 mobile courts was taken. 2702 cyclists were prosecuted for infringements of traffic rules, and a sum of Rs. 8,416 was realized from them as fine.

DEMAND FOR STATEHOOD FOR GOA

1029. SHRI BINDESHWARI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the reaction of the Central Government to the demand of the statehood by the Goa Assembly?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): No such demand by the present Legislative Assembly of Goa, Daman and Diu has come to the notice of the Government.

INQUIRY INTO ALLEGATIONS AGAINST CHIEF MINISTER OF GOA

1030. SHRI BINDESHWARI PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had enquired into the allegations against the Chief Minister of Goa, Mr. Dayanand Bandodkar through an ex-judge of High Court;

(b) whether Government have received any report so far; and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) A preliminary examination of the allegations made against the Chief Minister of Goa, Daman and Diu contained in the Memorandum received by the President and the Prime Minister from some leading citizens of Goa in August, 1970 was entrusted to a retired High Court Judge whose report has been received. As the preliminary examination was made with a view to assisting Government in arriving at a decision and not under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, it will not be appropriate to give details of the report.