

ters, Store Depots, Ordnance Factories and public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Defence. In others, they are procured through the DGS&D or through the Department of Defence Supplies depending upon whether they are established items or are items being produced in the country for the first time. Collection of information from DGS & D, from the three Service Headquarters, from Ordnance Factories from Store Depots and from Defence Undertakings, spread throughout the country will take time. Therefore, the following reply is confined to the items ordered by the Department of Defence Supplies.

2. The number of firms to which tenders have been issued is quite large, and presumably it is not the intention of the Hon'ble Member to ask for the number of firms to whom tenders have been given. However, orders had been placed by the Department of Defence Supplies for 2758 items during the financial year 1970-71 and 2291 items during the financial year 1971-72.

3. The number of supply orders against which advances or on account payments have been made during the last two financial years, namely, 1970-71 and 1971-72 however is 20. The number of firms to whom these advances or 'on account' payments have been made is 15, some firms having been given advances against more than one order. Out of these 15 firms, the following have not yet commenced supply in at least one of the orders placed on them.

(1) M/s. Haring India (P) Ltd, Ghaziabad.

(2) M/s. National Instruments Optalmic Class Ltd., Calcutta.

(3) M/s. Marshall Sons & Co (I) Ltd, Calcutta.

(4) M/s. Scientific Engineering House (P) Ltd, Hyderabad.

(5) M/s. Sion Garage (P) Ltd, Bombay.

(6) M/s. Bharat Forge Co. Ltd., Poona.

(7) M/s. Aemphico Engineering Work, Bombay.

(8) M/s. Kadevi Engineering Co., Secunderabad.

(9) M/s. Andhra Scientific Co., Masulipatnam.

(10) M/s. Mysore Electro Chemical Works Ltd, Bangalore.

4. It may be pointed out that these are all development-cum-production orders in which the firms are required to develop prototypes and pilots according to Defence Services specifications, and to get them tested and approved by the inspectors and the users before going into bulk production. This, in many cases, takes longer time than envisaged on the occasion of the placement of order because of inadequate realisation on the part of the firms concerned of the development and production effort and difficulties involved. In respect of all these firms, the supply orders are still current although in some cases extensions have been granted for adequate reasons. The recoveries for advances or 'on account' payments will automatically be made from the bills of supplies in the usual course.

5. However, the firms at Serial Nos. 9 and 10, namely M/s. Andhra Scientific Co., Masulipatnam and M/s. Mosore Electro Chemical Works Ltd., Bangalore have been facing serious management and financial difficulties. The Government has recently decided to take over the former firm and is examining the question of take over in the case of the latter one.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION OF INQUIRY AGAINST GOENKA GROUP OF COMPANIES

*198. SHRI S. G. SARDESAI :
SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :
SHRI S. KUMARAN :
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :

Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to appoint a Commission of Inquiry to go into the various mal-practices committed by the Goenka Group of Companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K V RAGHUNATHA REDDY) : (a) and (b) The facts brought out in the inspection reports of various companies of the Goenka Group are under examination. With respect to certain facts, first information reports were already given to Delhi Special Police Establishment, Special Investigating Unit Branch.

अन्दमान तथा निकोबार द्वीप समूह का विकास

*199. श्री ओम प्रकाश त्यागी : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार अन्दमान तथा निकोबार द्वीप समूह का स्विटजरलैंड की भाँति एक आकर्षक पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में विकास करने के किसी प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका व्योग क्या है ?

†[DEVELOPMENT OF ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS]

*199. SHRI OMP RAKASH TYAGI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop Andaman and Nicobar Group of Islands into centres of tourist attraction on the pattern of Switzerland, and

(b) if so the details thereof ?]

पर्यटन और नागर विमान मंत्री (डा० कर्ण सिंह) (क) ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

† [THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR KARAN SINGH) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration.

† [] English translation.

(b) Does not arise.]

*200. [Vide cols....supra].

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF APPLIED ECONOMIC RESEARCH

*201 SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to certain serious allegations made against functioning of the National Council of Applied Economic Research of New Delhi,

(b) if so, the details of the allegations; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted by Government into these allegations and if so, the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B CHAVAN) : (a) A representation from the N C A. E. R. Employees Union has been received containing certain allegations regarding functioning of the Council.

(b) The representation, *inter alia*, alleges —

(i) Improper costing of projects undertaken by the Council,

(ii) That the Audit Report of A G C R refers to "grave financial irregularities",

(iii) Charges of misappropriation were levelled in regard to the construction of the fourth floor of the Council building,

(iv) Supply of Punch Cards (condensed data) to USAID,

(v) Deputation of officers for training abroad ignoring the high qualifications of some employees,

(vi) Favouritism in recruitments promotions, etc.,