

of Kerala has requested the Central Government to implement the Precision Instruments Project at Palghat ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of setting up of the Project at Palghat in Kerala is under consideration.

APPLICATIONS FOR LICENCES FROM KERALA

476. SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for industrial licences from Kerala that are pending with the Government of India ;

(b) the details of the applications and when they are pending ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) 39 applications received from Kerala are pending. Out of these, 3 relate to the year 1969, 9 to 1970 and 27 to 1971. Details of pending applications are not normally disclosed.

MURDER CASES IN THE COUNTRY

477. SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the total number of murder cases in India was 14,732 in the year 1969 ;

(b) the total number of murders committed in the years 1970 and 1971 ; and

(c) What is the statewide break up of these figures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total number of cases of murder reported during 1970 was 15708 ; figures for the year 1971 are being compiled.

(c) A statement is enclosed. [See Appendix I XXIX, Annexure, No. 30]

AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 370 OF THE CONSTITUTION

478. SHRIMATI PRATIISHA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the continued threat from Pakistan and the change of circumstances since 1948, Government propose to abrogate article 370 of the Constitution to bring the State of Jammu and Kashmir at par with other States of the Indian Union ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI):

(a) and (b) Article 370 of the Constitution is being used to apply more provisions of the Constitution of India to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. No proposal for abrogating this article is under consideration.

SMUGGLING OF BLUE FILMS

479. SHRI YEMGALLA SAI YANARA-YANA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons arrested in connection with smuggling and distribution of blue films in Delhi this year ; and

(b) the action taken by Government against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):

(a) and (b) No one has been arrested in connection either with smuggling or distribution of blue films in Delhi during the current year. Obscene film slides were, however, recovered from two persons in Delhi during the current year and they have been arrested. The cases against them under section 292 IPC are under investigation.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RACKET IN HYDERABAD

480. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYANARA-YANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a foreign exchange racket has been unearthed in Hyderabad in September, 1971, and twelve persons including some prominent missionaries have been arrested ; and

(b) if so, whether any investigations have been made in the matter ?