

DECENTRALISATION OF PLANNING MACHINERY

864. SHRI N. SRI RAM REDDY: Will the Minister of PLANNING/ योजना मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for decentralisation of the planning machinery has been evolved; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of this decentralisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING/ योजना मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b) No scheme of decentralisation as such has been evolved. However, steps have been taken with the State Governments for strengthening the Planning machinery at the State and district levels with the object, inter alia, of ensuring that the needs, potentials and priorities of every section of the people and every region of a State are fully reflected, through a process of multi-level planning, in the National as well as the State plans. It would also help in securing peoples' participation in the process of planning.

LEGISLATION REGARDING 16-POINT PROGRAMME FOR WEST BENGAL

865. SHRI CHITTA BASU: SHRI MAHITOSH PURAKAYASTHA: SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate to bring forward some special legislation to ensure the implementation of the 16-point programme for industrial uplift of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ औद्योगिक विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA): (a) and (b) Recommendation No. 1 of the 16-point programme laid down that Government should be enabled to take over, free of encum-

brances, industrial units which were in difficulties. Recommendation No. 2 laid down that Section 18-A of the Industries Act should be amended to enable Government to permanently acquire management of industrial units now being taken over under Section 18-A of Industries (D&R) Act. The President of India has promulgated an Ordinance on 1st November, 1971 to amend suitably the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 with a view to implementing these recommendations made in the 16-point programme.

LOSSES INCURRED BY HEAVY ELECTRICALS PLANT, BHOPAL

866. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ औद्योगिक विकास मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Heavy Electricals Plant at Bhopal has accumulated more losses than anticipated at the time of setting up of the project;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been held to find out the reasons for the heavy losses; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to improve the working of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT/ औद्योगिक विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA): (a) and (b) If a straight comparison is attempted between the losses accumulated by Heavy Electricals (India) Ltd., Bhopal upto now with the losses that had been indicated for the corresponding period in the Consultants' Project Report, it would give the impression that the unit has incurred heavier losses than had been anticipated at the time of setting up of the project. This, however, could not be a correct appreciation of the facts on ground as would be clear from the report submitted by the Chairman of BHEL and IIEIL who had been requested to hold an enquiry in this regard.

The Enquiry report reveals that the consultants who prepared the Project Report had not provided for

various cost elements such as township facilities, import duty, certain statutory payments like contributory provident fund, devaluation of Indian rupee in 1966 etc. Further-more, the product-mix and scope of manufacture of the project underwent substantial changes involving additional expenditure. If provision for all these variations as also adjustment for depreciation and interest charges at actual rates had been made at the time of setting up of the project, the consultants' forecast of losses would have worked out to a much higher figure than the losses actually accumulated by the unit till the end of 1970-71.

(c) The following steps are being taken to improve the working of the project and reduce the losses:

(1) Strict disciplinary measures to improve shop discipline and to ensure proper supervision at all times.

(2) To reduce absenteeism, proposals for encashment of leave are under consideration.

(3) Material Management and Production Control Divisions are being strengthened to ensure that danger signals in respect of materials and components are thrown up sufficiently in advance to enable alternative action to be taken where possible.

(4) Rigid control is being introduced to reduce idle time to the maximum possible extent.

(5) Detailed studies have been carried out in the Fabrication shop with a view to identifying measures for improvement in the cycle time of jobs.

#### LAW AND ORDER IN WEST BENGAL

367. SHRI ARJUN ARORA:  
SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP  
SINHA:  
SHRI KRISHAN KANT:  
DR. SALIG RAM:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS/ गृह मंत्री be pleased to state the present situation regarding

law and order in West Bengal as compared to that of last year and the first six months of the current year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/ गृह मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): There has been a general improvement in law and order situation of the State since September 1971. Government continue to maintain utmost vigilance and all possible steps are being taken to maintain the progress in restoring normal conditions in the State.

#### ESCAPE OF PAK UNDER-TRIALS FROM AMRITSAR CENTRAL JAIL

868. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS/ गृह मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances in which seven Pakistani under-trials escaped from the Amritsar Central Jail recently; and

(b) the number of Pak under-trials who have since been re-arrested?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/ गृह मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) According to the information furnished by the Government of Punjab, 7 Pakistani under-trial prisoners escaped from the Amritsar Central Jail on the night between 26th and 27th August, 1971. With the help of a grinding stone and a small saw which they had smuggled in a few days earlier with the help of those who came to interview them, they unfastened their fetters, and cut some of the bars of their cells and escaped under cover of rain and darkness, by scaling the walls with the help of their 'chaddars' improvised into a rope. There had been negligence on the part of some of the jail officials.

(b) Four of the seven under-trial prisoners in question, have since been re-arrested.

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि