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[Translation]

Dacoities and Lootings in Trains

- 9322. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of incidents of dacoities and looting in trains have came to light during the last two months;
- (b) if so, the names of the trains in which the said incidents occurred; and
- (c) the extent of loss of life and property in such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHR1 ARUN NEHRU): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Prizes Won on Unsold Lottery Tickets

- 9323. SHRI ANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that in respect of lotteries organised by the Union Government and State Governments draw of lots

are held from one of all the lottery tickets printed and not out of those actually sold out and the prizes relating to such tickets as are not sold out are pocketed by the Agents concerned who sell lottery tickets; and

(b) if so, whether any precise assessment about the amounts of prize money so pocketed by contractors during the last two years has been made, if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The Central Government is not organising any lottery. As regards States, there is no uniformity in drawing lots on the basis of the sold-out or the printed tickets. In States and UTs where lotteries are run departmentally, only the sold-out tickets are generally, included in the draws. In States where lotteries are organised through sole-selling agents, the practice of drawing lots differs from State to State.

(b) No assessment has been made by the State Governments in this regard.

Investigation of Petty thefts in Delhi

9324. SHRI KAMAL NATH:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police has taken a decision that petty thefts need not be probed and that such cases will be registered and no further action will be taken thereon; and

(b) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF **COMMUNICATIONS** AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Activity of Bharat Electronics Limited in Sikkim

9325. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to State:

- (a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Bharat Electronics Ltd. have not undertaken any activity in the State of Sikkim; and
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCF PRODUC-TION AND DEFENCE SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). M/s. Bharat Electronics Limited is a Defence Public Sector Undertaking with production units in different parts of the country. BEL does not have any unit in Sikkim.

Setting up of Engineering Research Institute

9326. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to set up an Engineering Research Institute to act as a bridge among the Industry and the Research Laboratories and the state-owned and other institutions;
 - (b) if so, its broad outlines; and

(c) the places likely to be earmarked for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH-NOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Technical Board or Corporate Body for Tapping the Sea Bed Mineral Resources

9327. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to set up a separate Technical Board or Corporate Body to tap the sea-bed mineral resources:
- (b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands; and
- (c) the likely set up of the corporate body and how long will it take to build the necessary infrastructure and technology in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNO-LOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, **ATOMIC** ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE SHIVRAJ ٧. PATIL) (SHRI (a) The Government of India recently constituted an Ocean Science and Technology Board for a coordinated development and exploitation of ocean resources, including the sea-bed minerals.

- (b) The Board has started functioning and its first meeting is proposed fo be held in May 1986.
- (c) The Board comprises of several officers of the level of Secretaries to the Government of India and eminent scientists in the field of oceanography.

Infrastructure in the form of institutional base, trained manpower and research vessels is already available in the country. Technology for the exploitation of oil and gas, ilmenite, rutile, zircon, monazite etc. also