

yardstick.

(x) Encouragement of Medical Graduates to open private clinics and nursing homes.

(xi) Encouraging Agricultural Graduates to open Agro-Service Centres.

(xii) Earmarking jobs like those of Stenographer, Primary School Teachers, Telephone Operators, House Keepers, Computer Data Entry Operators, / Receptionists etc, for women.

(xiii) Encouraging voluntary organisations to utilise surplus rural labour and enrich the economy.

(xiv) Expand scope and content of IRDP and other poverty alleviation programmes to provide more employment opportunities in the unorganised sectors.

(xv) Diversification of cropping pattern with more thrust on cash crops to absorb more of rural unemployed with support for marketing agricultural produce.

(xvi) Self-employment in cottage, Khadi as well as village industries alongwith other incentives and support.

(xvii) Encouragement to sericulture, fruit preservation and food processing sectors to create more employment with less capital.

(xviii) Provision of wage employment for rural labour in plantation works under social forestry and in commercial plantations like tea, coffee, etc. to be taken up through departmental and voluntary organisations.

(xix) Engagement of rural and urban

labour in building and roads programme during slack seasons so that seasonal unemployment can be taken care of.

(xx) Besides the above, a scheme of stipendiary engineers is in operation since 1990 through which 1468 unemployed degree engineers have been provided employment at a consolidated remuneration of Rs. 2,000 per month.

(xxi) Sikhya Karmis and Sikhya sevakas have been created for educated unemployed who can work as teachers.

**Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi**

\*320

SHRI ANIL BASU:  
PROF. SUSANTA  
CHAKRABORTY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited, Ranchi is facing a virtual closure due to non-availability of financial assistance as reported in the Telegraph dated June 2, 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the financial assistance is likely to be released;

(d) whether the Union Government had also appointed a high power committee in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to implement the recommendations of the committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT  
OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPART-

MENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES) (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to the budgetary constraints of the Government it is difficult to provide additional funds beyond the budget provision during the year.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. An Expert Committee headed by Dr. D.V. Kapoor, former Secretary, Heavy Industry is examining the Turn Around Plan submitted by Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) for its revival.

(f) Discussions have been held with the banks for arranging requisite funds for H.E.C.

#### **Licences to SC/ST Entrepreneurs**

\*321. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to issue licences to SC/ST entrepreneurs for setting up electronic units is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). According to Industrial Policy Statement dated 24.7.91, no industrial licence is required for setting up units in the electronic sector except in the area of strategic electronics and for the manufacture of Colour TVs, VCRs, CD Players, Tape Recorders and Microwave Ovens. Even in these areas, there is no limitation on the number of licences that can be issued. Hence, there is no proposal to issue licences sepa-

rately for SC/ST entrepreneurs for setting up electronic units.

[English]

#### **Essential Commodities Act 1955**

\*322. DR. D. VANKATESHWARA RAO; SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The matter is presently under consideration of the Government.

#### **Contracts to Public Sector Undertakings**

\*323. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA; SHRI AMAL DATTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the central public sector undertakings are being ignored by the Government of Southern States in the matter of awarding contracts as reported in the Economic Times dated June 5, 1992;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that these central public sector undertakings only get the contracts?