

inviting attention to certain so-called 'grave troubles' in the country's economy;

(b) if so, what main points were made out in the memorandum; and

(c) what is Government's decision thereon?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Yes, Sir. The President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry had addressed a letter to the Prime Minister on the 20th July, 1962, inviting attention to some of the important economic problems facing the country.

(b) The following are among the main points made in the letter:—

- (i) Difficulties in regard to Transport.
- (ii) Difficulties in regard to production and movement of coal.
- (iii) Shortage of power.
- (iv) Difficulties arising from foreign exchange shortage and the need to control imports.

(c) Government are already seized of these problems and all appropriate measures are being taken.

#### Development of Backward Areas

**2499. Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has recently provided Rs. 264 crores for the development of backward areas through a number of Centrally-sponsored schemes;

(b) if so, how many of these schemes relate to the development of backward areas in the North Eastern region; and

(c) how much of this provision has been allocated for those schemes?

**The Minister of Planning and Labour and Employment (Shri Nanda):** (a) On account of a few programmes, e.g., rural works, rural industrialisation,

local development works (rural water-supply) and tribal development blocks, additional assistance will be available to State Governments. These programmes are expected to facilitate the development of backward areas.

(b) and (c). It is not possible to give any precise indication.

#### Uranium Mine in Bihar

**2500. Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a uranium mine is being developed near Jaduguda in Bihar;

(b) if so, what progress has been achieved so far; and

(c) when the mine is likely to be ready for exploitation?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) Yes.

(b) The mine has gone down to 400 ft. in depth from the first level.

(c) The mine is being exploited now and is expected to achieve full production before the end of 1965.

#### Perspective Planning Division

**2501. Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Perspective Planning Division of the Planning Commission is of the opinion that successive years of planning will further accentuate income inequalities;

(b) whether according to the Perspective Planning Division's study, at least one-fifth of the population will still be living in 'abject poverty' at the end of the Fifth Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**The Minister of Planning and Labour and Employment (Shri Nanda):** (a) No. The Perspective Planning Division has initiated studies on long-term economic development of the country,