

Appointment of Economists' Panel to enquire into decline of Industrial Growth

324. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to appoint a high-power group of economists to probe in to the steep decline of the industrial growth ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : No, Sir.

Evasion of Licensing Regulations by Firms

325. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the *Times of India* dated the 13th November, 1971 wherein it has been stated that hundreds of firms are trying to evade licensing regulations by applying for carry-on-business licenses ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). Consequent on the withdrawal of exemption from industrial licensing to units engaged in de-licensed industries and those engaged in other industries which were no longer exempted from the licensing provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation Act as per the modified licensing policy announced on the 19th February, 1970, Carrying-on-Business licenses had to be granted to such units if they had been either established or effective steps for their establishment had been taken before the 19th February, 1970 when they were exempted from industrial licensing. In order to ensure that Carrying-on-Business licenses are granted only to the industrial undertakings which are eligible for the same, instructions have been issued to all concerned to exercise utmost vigilance with regard to the date when the applicant firm commenced production or took effective steps.

Study Team to go into Economics of Newspapers and Classification Policy of Government

326. SHRI NAGESHWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Study Team to go into the economics of newspapers and classification policy of Government ; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be set up ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to appoint a Fact finding Committee to study certain aspects of the economics of newspaper management.

(b) Shortly.

Development of West Bengal Industries

327. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI :
DR. RANEN SEN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the extent of implementation of the new approach adopted by Government towards the development of West Bengal Industries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : As part of the 16-Point Programme, the whole of West Bengal, except Calcutta, Howrah and 24-Parganas, has been declared eligible for concessional finance from the financial institutions.

The West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation has been reconstituted and the new Managing Director has been selected. The West Bengal Small Industries Corporation has established a raw material bank with the supply of hard coke for small foundries.

The scheme for the establishment of 2000 small units is registering satisfactory progress. About 366 units have started production till 1-1-1972. A large number of schemes have been submitted and they are under examination.

Survey reports for each district indicating the industrial potential for the