

Cement Plant in Surplus Zones of the South and West

5956. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been invited to a report in the Economic Times of 21st November, 1972, stating that there are differences between the Industrial Development and the Finance Ministries over the setting up of cement plants in the surplus zones of the South and West; and

(b) whether Government have studied this report and if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The Government of India have seen the report appearing in the Economic Times dated 21st November, 1972 stating *inter alia* that there are differences between the Ministry of Industrial Development and Finance Ministry over the sanctioning of new cement plant in the Southern and Western zones of the country. However, it is denied that there are any difference between the Ministries of Industrial Development and Finance regarding the need for setting up of cement plants in the Southern and Western zones of the country. After taking into account all aspects of the matter, appropriate decision would be taken by the Government of India.

Number of Cases of Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in States and Union Territories

5957. SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of atrocities committed on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each State and

Union Territory since first January, 1971 upto first February, 1973; and

(b) whether intervention by the Central Government is contemplated as suggested in the recent Conference of Chief Ministers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) The Central Government deplore the occurrence of such incidents. They have requested all the State Governments to impress upon the authorities concerned to ensure prompt and effective investigation of offences committed against the Harijans. It has been clarified that any failure to do so would amount to grave dereliction of duty on the part of the officers concerned.

Use of Religious Places for Anti-Indian Propaganda by Pakistani Elements in U.P.

5958. SHRI S. N. MISRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether it is within the knowledge of Government that mosques and religious places in the State of U.P. are being used for anti-Indian propaganda by the Pakistani elements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): There is no evidence that Mosques and religious places in the State of Uttar Pradesh are being used for anti-Indian propaganda by Pakistani elements.

Defence materials produced in National Instrument Factory, Calcutta

5959. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: