

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) and (b). The required information is being collected from the Government of Bihar and will be laid on the Table of the House on receipt.

Interception of private correspondence by Government

2355. **SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether private correspondence of some Opposition Members of Parliament has been regularly intercepted;

(b) if so, whether their telephones are tapped and telex messages and telegrams are equally unsafe; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise.

Addition to the List of Larger Business Houses

2356. **SHRI DINESH JOARDER:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enlarge the list of larger business houses mentioned in the report of the Monopoly Commission on the basis of new data available;

(b) if so, the enlarged list of larger business houses along with their assets; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) to (c). After the submission of the Report of the Industrial

Licensing Policy Inquiry Committee, the 20 larger industrial houses which had aggregate assets of over Rs. 35 crores each and were listed in Appendix II-A(1) of the Report, were subject to regulatory control through the industrial licensing mechanism. The changes in industrial licensing policy announced in February, 1973, have brought about a parity between licensing provisions and the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act in the treatment of large business houses, by making regulatory control through licensing applicable to all undertakings which by themselves or in inter-connection with other undertakings have assets over Rs. 20 crores. Data up-to 1967-68 regarding assets of large business houses is available in the May 1970 issue of the Department of Company Affairs' Journal "Company News and Notes", copies of which are available in Parliament Library. The Department of Company Affairs is engaged in updating this information for appropriate use in the pursuit of Government policies.

Setting up of Regional Computer Consultancy Centres with the help of West Germany

2357. **SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT:** Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start Regional Computer Consultancy Centres or Computer Training Institutions;

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal;

(c) whether the West German Government have offered financial aid for starting such centres or institutions; and

(d) if so, the conditions and extent of the German help?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b). The Department of Electronics had set up Evaluation Committees to analyse regional demands for computers and determine specifications for suitable

systems. To meet such demands, it is proposed to set up Regional Computer Centres in cities like Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore etc. These Centres will provide facilities for most users in the region at low cost per unit through put and also encourage computer application in areas of relevance to development.

(c) and (d). The West German Government have offered financial aid to the Indian Institute of Technology at Malras for establishment of a large Computer Centre at the Institute which can meet requirements of training and research as well as for programmes jointly undertaken with Industry. Funds to the extent of 1.9 million DM in foreign exchange and Rs. 1 crores in local currency have been offered on condition of availability of operating personnel and adequate utilisation of the system.

Curb on Luxury Expenditure in the Country

2358. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of the Government to put curbs on luxury expenditure in the country; and

(b) if so, the main outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Approach to the Fifth Plan indicates a broad outline of the strategy in this regard including curtailing production of inessential and expensive articles of consumption.

Nuclear fuel famine in the world by 1980

2359. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news item appearing in the Indian Express dated

the 8th February, 1973 that there would be nuclear fuel famine in the world by the end of 1980;

(b) if so, how the Government propose to face the situation in the event of such a famine; and

(c) the extent to which such a famine will affect the advancement of the of the country in all respects?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The news item refers to world energy crisis and the need for locating additional resources of Uranium. So far as India is concerned the proved and indicated sources of uranium are sufficient to meet the needs of the country in the near future. It is the aim of the Government to base the long range atomic power programme in India on thorium of which India has substantial reserves.

राजस्थान में भारतीय प्रशासनिक सेवा/
भारतीय पुलिस सेवा के अधिकारियों की
समय से पूर्व सेवानिवृत्ति

2360. श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा :
क्या प्रबन्ध मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे
कि :

(क) क्या राजस्थान में भारतीय प्रशासनिक सेवा/भारतीय पुलिस सेवा के कुछ अधिकारी समय से पूर्व सेवानिवृत्त हो गये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस प्रकार कितने अधिकारियों को सेवानिवृत्त किया गया है ; और

(ग) इसके कारण क्या हैं ?