Jamanalal Bajai Research Institute, Waidha

443. SHRI SANTOSHRAO GODE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission runs Jamanalal Bajaj Research Institute at Wardha;

(b) if so, type of research work being carried on in this Institute; and

(c) whether some production units of this Institute have been closed down, resulting in the retrenchment of staff members?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Institute conducts technical research in Oils, Ceramic, Lime and Cellulose Disciplines. The Institute is improving the implements, processes and quality of products according to the approved projects.

 (c) In October, 1976 Khadi and Village Industries Commission closed down experimental pilot plants for Cellulose Oil and Soap Ceramic. No
compulsory retrenchments of any employee was affected. 109 non-qualified persons were transferred with continuity of past service to other units.
42 workers however have opted for voluntary retrenchment.

Abolition of Caste System

- 444. SHRI B. C. KAMBLE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government propose to take appropriate measures to abolish the caste-system and also to make its observance penal?
- THE MINISTER OF HOME AF-FAIRS (CHAUDHURI CHARAN SINGH): Even though the Constitution provides that no citizen shall be discriminated against on the basis of caste, and there are legal provisions

against the practice, it has unfortunately still persisted. Caste and communal distinctions in the country can not vanish without social change and economic progress. Government are aware of the complexity of the problem and expect that with the social change and appropriate economic orientation of its policies, influence of the caste will be weakened. Government propose to set u Civil Rights Commission for ensuring that no member of any minority community shall suffer from discrimination or inequality.

Attack on Principal and staff of Satyawati College, Delhi

445. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) whether Government have probed into the attack made on the Principal and staff of the Satyawati College, Delhi on the 11th May, 1977; and

(b) if so, the necessary action taken against the assailants?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AF-FAIRS (CHAUDHURI CHARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). According to information received from the Delhi Administration no such incident as mentioned in part (a) of the question took place on the 11th May, 1977. The facts furnished by the Delhi Administration are as follows:

It was reported by the Principal, Satyawati College, that on 10th May 1977, when there was a meeting of the Governing Body of the College, a peaceful demonstration was staged by the teachers, employees and students against some nominated members of the governing body to demand their resignation. Some goondas entered the College and started beating up the teachers, employees and students of the college. The Principal alleged that he was also manhandled. A case