

ted in rural areas. These units have generated employment of 36,12,108 persons of which 23,89,694 persons were employed in rural industries.

(b) The Approach Document for the Seventh Plan 1985—90 has laid adequate emphasis on promotion of rural industrialisation in the country.

Economic Deterioration in the Country due to Decline in Export

213. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the decline in exports from States is one of the basic reasons of economic deterioration in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA)

(a) and (b) : Exports from India are showing continuous rise. The State-wise statistics of exports/imports are not available as these statistics are compiled and maintained on all India basis. There has been no economic deterioration in the country. On the other hand, Indian economy is showing steady improvement. The average growth rate in the Sixth Plan period is likely to hit the target level of 5.2 percent.

Regional Chauvinist and Secessionist Forces

214. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether regional, chauvinist and secessionist forces in the north-east region have been very active during the last two months;

(b) whether the activities of secessionists in the country are day-by-

day increasing in almost all parts of the country;

(c) if so, whether any directive has been issued to various States in regard to the checking of these activities;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to curb these activities; and

(e) whether any specific policy in this regard has since been formulated ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN):(a) Such forces were very active only in Tripura during the last two months. In other parts of North-East region, there was no increase in the activities of such forces.

(b) While separatist and secessionist tendencies have been noticed in some parts of the country, there has been no day-to-day increase in such activities in almost all parts of the country.

(c) to (e) It is the prime duty and responsibility of the Government, whether at the Center or in the States, to preserve and maintain the unity and integrity of the country at all costs. For this purpose, various laws provide stringent punishment to those who preach or practise secession.

Long-Term Effects of Exposure of MIC

215. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether observations regarding possible long-term effects of exposure of MIC were made by some experts at the Indian Science Congress Session at Lucknow recently;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the experts views on gas effects submitted by the Indian Science Congress Session;