

tioned in Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4348 dated 18.12.91 have been referred to Central Bureau of Investigation and it is not possible to indicate a definite time, by which C.B.I. will complete the investigations.

[Translations]

Raw Material Shortage in Northern Region

6662. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of various raw materials has hit the industrial production in the Northern region and has also affected the exports as reported in the 'Stateman' dated March 11, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed by the Union Government to ensure availability of raw materials to the industries and boost the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). Index of Industrial Production and Data on Exports are not being compiled region-wise. Any shortage of raw materials is bound to affect industrial production and exports. According to Ministry of Coal, the industrial consumers including some consumers in Northern Region may have experienced shortfall in supply of coal due to priority movement of coal by rail to core sector consumers, particularly power utilities. According to Department of Steel there is general shortage of pig iron and certain items of steel in the country. Import of these items is allowed, Removal of margin money

requirement on raw materials and intermediates and elimination of Import Licensing except for a small Negative List of specified items, decanalisation of vital raw material and provision for import of most of industrial inputs as and when required, as provided in the Import & Export Policy, 1992-97, will facilitate quicker and easier availability of raw materials to the Industry and boost industrial production.

[English]

Collaboration of Hindustan Motors with General Motors of USA

6663. SHRI RABI RAY:
DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY;

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Motors has entered into a collaboration agreement with the General Motors of USA for manufacturing fuel efficient cars and automotive components; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Government have approved a proposal of M/s. Hindustan Motors Limited, Calcutta for setting up of a Joint Venture project with M/s. General Motors Corporation, U.S.A for manufacture of fuel efficient passenger cars within the existing licenced capacity. The foreign equity participation by the collaborator would be approximately 30% and there would be a balancing of foreign exchange outgo through export earnings.

Revamping of HFC

6664. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps proposed to be taken for revamping/rehabilitating of different units of HFC;

(b) the unit-wise allocation of funds therefor; and

(c) the stage at which the matter of revamping stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) HFC has submitted an investment proposal of Rs. 128.31 crores pertaining to their following units as per details given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Barauni	-	35.49
Durgapur	-	46.78
Namrup-I	-	11.50
Namrup-II	-	34.54
Total	-	128.31

(b) and (c). No decision has been taken on the proposal, therefore, no funds have been allocated unit-wise.

Space Technology for Scientific Purposes

6665. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soviet Union has offered to increase the assistance being given to India for improving the space technology for scientific purposes;

(b) if so, the salient features of the

proposal; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

'No Industry Districts' in Tamil Nadu

6666. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in Tamil Nadu which have been enlisted as 'No-industry' Districts;

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government for setting up of industrial units in those districts;

(c) if so, the time by which such industrial units would be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) Districts which did not have any large or medium industrial unit according to the District Industries Centres Action Plan, 1979-80 were declared as No-Industry Districts. As per this criterion, Tamilnadu does not have any 'No Industry District'.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Consumption of Coal

6667. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the consumption of coal in the country, State-wise;