

Various steps taken have already shown improvement in the capacity utilisation of the plants. Over the past few years, productivity in almost all the plants has increased considerably on account of various improvements in operating procedures and modifications of equipment. As regards ammonia based heavy water plants, better management of process condensate recycling in the fertilizer plants to which Heavy Water Plants have been coupled, has resulted in improved concentration of deuterium in the feed synthesis gas coming from the fertilizer plant.

With regard to the Talcher Plant, the plan of action would depend upon the proposed revival of the fertilizer unit at Talcher.

Panchayati Raj Legislation

2134. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States which have so far modified Panchayati Raj Legislation to bring it in line with the 74th Amendment of the Constitution;

(b) the names of States which have

established State Election Commission;

(c) the names of States where panchayat elections are due with the year of last panchayat election; and

(d) the names of States which have held or at least announced the date for holding panchayat elections in accordance with the modified legislation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) :

(a) As per information available, the States of Tripura, Orissa and Gujarat have modified Panchayati Raj Legislation to bring it in line with the 73rd amendment of the Constitution. Karnataka and Bihar have brought fresh legislation.

(b) Only Karnataka and Kerala have established State Election Commission so far.

(c) A Statement is enclosed.

(d) No States have so far announced the date for holding panchayat elections in accordance with modified legislation.

STATEMENT

Names of States where panchayat elections are due with the year of last panchayat election

| <i>S.No.</i> | <i>Names of State</i> | <i>Year of last Panchayat election</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1988 |
| 2. | Bihar | 1978 |
| 3. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1980 |

| <i>S.No.</i> | <i>Names of State</i> | <i>Year of last Panchayat election</i> |
|--------------|-----------------------|--|
| 4. | Karnataka | 1987 |
| 5. | Madhya Pradesh | 1989 |
| 6. | Rajasthan | 1988 |
| 7. | Tamil Nadu | 1986 |
| 8. | Tripura | 1984 |

Privatisation of Public Sector Undertakings

2135. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL :
SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry has urged the Government to set up privatisation agency to launch a time bound programme to privatise public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement the recommendations of CII in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The suggestions have been noted.

Khadi and Village Industries Sector

2136. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the existing labour laws in the Khadi and Village Industries Sector;

(b) whether a 20 member high powered Committee under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister has been set up to examine these issues;

(c) if so, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its recommendations;

(d) whether any amendment to the existing labour laws is being considered by the Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e) A twenty