

between BHEL and Siemens has been examined since then; and

(b) if so, the details of the final decisions taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA):

(a) The proposal along with the report is still under examination of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

#### New Heavy Water process

3586. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA:  
SHRI SHANTARAM POT-  
DUKHE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any success has since been achieved over the new heavy water process in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the plant has also since been completed and if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the estimated production of heavy water likely to be made indigenously during the next three years?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and The process technology employed at the Heavy Water Plants at Tuticorin and Baroda, viz., Ammonia-Hydrogen Exchange (mono-thermal) has already been proved successful as production of heavy water has been achieved. Heavy Water Plant (Talcher) which is based on Ammonia-Hydrogen Exchange (bi-thermal) is likely to be commissioned shortly as soon as synthesis gas is available from Fertilizer Corporation of India, Talcher. The Kota plant has  $H_2S-H_2O$  process which is a well established process elsewhere in the world. This plant is expected to be commissioned by November, 1981.

(c) The designed capacity of the Four Heavy Water Plants constructed/under construction is about 300 tonnes per annum. It would not be in the country's interest to discharge the actual/estimated production of heavy water from these plants.

#### Minorities Commission proposal for Regional Offices

3587. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:  
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minorities Commission has submitted a proposal to Government recommending the setting up of Regional Offices in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, when the proposal was submitted; and

(c) the details of the proposal and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Minorities Commission had originally sent a proposal, on 2-12-1978 for setting up of their Regional Offices at Calcutta, Hyderabad, Madras, Bombay and Lucknow. The proposal was considered in consultation with the Commission. On 28-2-1980 the Commission modified their proposal and suggested setting up of their Regional Offices at Calcutta, Bombay, Hyderabad and Lucknow in the first phase and indicated that their proposal for the Madras office could be taken up later. The Commission have been requested to furnish more justification in support of their modified proposal. Their reply is still awaited.