

(a) and (b). There has been a fall in the production of writing and printing paper, in the last few months, due to drought conditions, inadequate power supply and shortage of coal. The decline in availability of paper has led to increase in prices of different varieties of writing and printing papers, including cream wove paper. The market price however, fluctuates according to availability of paper from time to time and also varies in respect of different mills, and no authentic information is available with regard to exact amount of rise in price.

Government have arranged for the import of writing and printing paper to meet the requirements of consumers and to ensure that the marginal imbalance between demand and supply does not result in a speculative increase in prices. Imports are however being planned only to the minimum extent necessary, and at the most economic prices. Adequate capacity is being set up to meet the country's requirement of paper and with the expected improvement in power and coal availability, it would be possible to achieve higher capacity utilisation leading to increased production.

Atrocities on Harijans and Adivasis

3598. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the state-wise incidence of atrocities committed on the Harijans and Adivasis, from February to May, 1980, month-wise;

(b) in how many cases the police personnel were involved, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons why these atrocities cannot be stopped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):
(a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected from the State Gov-

ernments and Union Territory Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Conversion of Development Commissioner into Small Development Authority

3599. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether conversion of the present Organisation of Development Commissioner of Small Scale Industries into a small business Development Authority or a Department of Small business and attaching the new organisation to the Prime Minister's Secretariat has been suggested by the National Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs in a memorandum submitted to Government; and

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

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

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government had received a representation from National Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs suggesting *inter alia*, the setting up of an independent statutory Small Business Authority, in place of the present Organisation of the Development Commissioner (SSI) and creation of a separate Department of Small Business. The suggestion was examined in detail and it was not found acceptable to the Government.

Assistants and ACSOs in AFHQ

3600. SHRI DAYA RAM SHAKYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of Assistants and ACSOs working in Armed Forces Headquarters;

(b) what is the ratio of promotions, from Assistants to ACSOs;

(c) is it a fact that the Assistants directly recruited are considered for