

3. *The Commission of Inquiry on Assam^{*} Nagaland Border Conflict :*

- (a) The Commission is mainly to probe into the conduct of the officials of the Governments of Assam and Nagaland including their uniformed personnel leading to the clashes in the first week of June, 1985 at the inter-state border. The Commission is yet to submit its report. The term of the Commission has been extended upto 31st July, 1986.
- (b) The Commission was appointed on 21st August, 1985.
- (c) There has been no change in the terms of reference of the Commission.

Deaths and Births Registered in Kerala in 1985

2500. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of deaths and births registered in the State of Kerala in 1985 ; and
- (b) what proportion do these figures bear to the corresponding national figures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) Information on registered deaths and births in Kerala for the year 1985 is available only upto the month of October, 1985. The figures are 91,602 and 388,614 for deaths and births respectively.

- (b) The corresponding all-India figures are not available.

Plantation Crop for Rural Employment

2501. SHRI K. PRADHANI : SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered the suggestion made at a recent seminar on plantation opportunities that India must more fully exploit the potential afforded by plantation crops for providing rural employment and raising rural incomes ;

(b) if so, whether the idea of permitting corporate bodies, especially those dependent on forests for their raw materials like the match and paper industries, has also been taken into consideration ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor when the need is urgent because of repaid deforestation caused by the ever-growing demand for fuel, fodder, timber and other food products and pulp ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The Government have seen newsreports of a seminar organised by private industry.

(b) The National Wastelands Development Board has independently considered and drawn up an Action Plan, under which it has been emphasised that forest based industries must be encouraged to utilise wastelands through captive plantations or farm forestry to meet their raw material demand.

(c) Does not arise.

Ordnance Factory in Hazaribagh

2502. SHRI SIDHA LAL MURMU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bihar have made available suitable Government land (7658.33) acres for setting up of an Ordnance Factory at Bariyardih Mor (Markacho, Hazaribagh) which is pollution free, dry as well as moist and located near Bokaro Steel plant, and is most economical ; and

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to depute experts to Bariyardih Mor (Markacho) for examining its suitability setting up of the ordnance factory there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND DEFENCE SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) In connection with the likely setting up of an ordnance factory, some State Governments including Bihar have been approached for offer of suitable sites. Government of Bihar have offered a few sites including one in Markacho of Hazaribagh District. These sites will be evaluated along with others in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

Production of Colour TV by MRTP Firms

2503. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to allow the MRTP firm to make colour televisions ;

(b) if so, the number of MRTP firms who have applied for colour televisions licence and their name ;

(c) whether the Indian manufacturers of colour television have complained against the decision and suggested Government that these complaints would not be fit into this field ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The colour T.V. Policy was announced by Government on 25.2.1983. According to it, all sectors of the industry except foreign equity companies could participate in the manufacture of Colour T.V. sets. Subsequently, vide Resolution dated 1.1.1986 companies with foreign equity not exceeding 40% are also allowed to participate in this industry subject to certain conditions.

(b) The following four MRTP Companies have/had applied for industrial licence to manufacture TV sets :

- M/s. Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited, Tamil Nadu ;
- M/s. Meenakshi Electronics Limited, Kanpur ;
- M/s. Straw Products Limited, New Delhi ; and
- M/s. Pieco Electronics and Electricals Ltd, Bombay.

Letter of Intent issued to M/s. Meenakshi Electronics was cancelled due to non-implementation of the project.

(c) Government had received representations from T.V. manufacturers against the entry of multinationals and foreign equity holding companies in this industry.

(d) These representations have been into account and Government are of the view that the current policy mentioned above will take better care of consumer interest through improvement in quality and technology and will not also affect the industry because the demand for T.V. receivers is increasing.

Afforestation of Hilly Areas under 20-Point Programme

2504. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken under 20-Point Programme towards afforestation of hilly areas, now stand barren and bare all over the country ;

(b) state-wise progress made in this regard ;

(c) the steps taken to discourage human habitation in forest areas of the country ; and

(d) the progress made towards tree plantation on road side all over the country including in vacant land along the railway tracks ?