

(d) Lumpsum payment in this case would permit the upgradation of the engine of the motor-cycle for increased efficiency and low fuel consumption with substantial material conservation since the weight of the entire motor-cycle dove-tailed to the engine of the new version would be substantially less compared to the existing motor-cycle. The competitiveness of the product in the export market would also improve

Production of Standard Cloth

6650 SHRI K S VEERABHADRA-PPA. Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) the details regarding the production of standard cloth in the country during the last three years, State-wise, in length,

(b) the details regarding the production of standard cloth in the large scale and the handloom sectors for the current year, and

(c) whether there has been any decline in the production of standard cloth in the year 1977-78?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Production of controlled cloth during the current year (April—December, 1978) is as under:—

| | Production in Million Sq Metres. |
|---------------------------|--|
| Mill Sector | 219.00 |
| Handloom Sector | 88.66 |
| TOTAL | 337.66 |

(c) No, Sir.

Consumption of Iodine Salt

6651. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN. Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that only Iodine Salt is consumed by the North Bengal people;

(b) whether it is a fact that Iodine Salt is procured from other places for the consumption of North Bengal people as there is no industry in that area, and

(c) if so the details thereof and whether Government have any intention to open an Iodine Salt Factory in North Bengal, if so, when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI): (a) to (c) Iodised Salt is supplied to districts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, West Dinapur, Cooch Behar and Malda in North Bengal, which have been declared as goitre-endemic areas, from the four iodisation plants installed at Howrah. As salt is imported by sea route at Calcutta, the location of these iodisation plants at Howrah ensures adequate and regular supplies of common salt for iodisation and facilitates despatch of iodised salt to the goitre-endemic North Eastern region of the country. It is not considered necessary to install an iodisation plant in North Bengal exclusively for meeting the local requirements

Criteria of C.R. for Promotion of S.C. and S.T. Candidates

6652 SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR. Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Confidential Reports of SC and ST employees are spoiled without any basis and sometimes letters are issued highlighting even the very small mistakes of SC and ST employees whereas for a similar or bigger mistakes of general candidates, no cognisance is taken;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to remove such disparity; and

(c) whether Government would frame some rules whereby the CRs should not be the only criteria for considering a SC and ST candidate for promotion of higher posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL). (a) The Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms is not aware of such situations.

(b) Doe. not arise.

(c) Rules already exist under which, for certain categories of promotion other methods and criteria than mere assessment of past performance as selected in the CR e.g. departmental examination, interviews etc. are resorted to for all classes of employees. For Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe members, in promotion by selection upto the lowest rung of Group A (Class I), and in promotion by seniority, in all Groups of posts, there is reservation, and relaxed standards of suitability and assessment are applied for them—whatever be the method of promotion, either seniority, or selection through the C.R., limited examination, interview, etc.

MHD Power Generation

6653. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether research on MHD power generation (power through low temperature thermal plasma) is being made; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The first phase of the programme, which comprises some of the auxiliary laboratories and a 5 MW (Thermal) R&D Plant, is expected to be operational by 1982. Results of this R&D effort would be available thereafter.

संसद सदस्यों, विधायकों तथा प्रति विभिन्न व्यक्तियों के लिए बजाज और प्रिया स्कूटरों की बुकिंग

6654. श्री इया राम शास्त्री : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या प्रतिरक्षा कर्मचारियों और प्रति विभिन्न व्यक्तियों का प्राथमिकता के आधार पर प्रिया और बजाज स्कूटरों की सप्लाई करने हेतु उनके लिए बुकिंग की व्यवस्था की गई थी और विधायकों तथा संसद सदस्यों ने अनेक वर्षों से इन स्कूटरों के लिए बुकिंग करा रखी थी तथा क्या उन्हें बुकिंग के आधार पर यह स्कूटर नहीं दिए जा रहे हैं और यदि हाँ, तो उनके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार विज्ञेनाओं को निदेश देगी कि जिनके नाम बुकिंग हो गई है, उन्हें स्कूटर दिए जाए ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय से राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती ज्ञाना भाईति) : (क) और (ख). स्कूटरों के वितरण तथा बिक्री पर लगा कानूनी नियंत्रण, जो आन्धीर में बजाज और प्रिया मेक के स्कूटरों पर लागू था, 1 जनवरी, 1978 से समाप्त कर दिया गया है ताकि देश में मांगो को कारणर दृश्य से पूरा करने हेतु सारे स्कूटर उद्योग की प्रच्युत्तरदायिता और विकास को बढ़ावा मिल सके। बजाज तथा प्रिया मेक के स्कूटरों का कोई विशेष कोटा किसी भी श्रेणी के व्यक्तियों को आवंटन करने के लिए अब उपलब्ध नहीं है। अनेक हज़ारों मेक के स्कूटर उपलब्ध हैं जिनमें सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रम—स्कूटर्स इण्डिया लिमिटेड—द्वारा निर्मित स्कूटर भी शामिल हैं। बजाज/प्रिया मेक के स्कूटरों के लिए मांग की पूर्ति शून्य मेक के स्कूटरों, यदि श्राहक ऐसा चाहे,—से की जा सकती है, जिनमें सरकारी क्षेत्र के उपक्रम—स्कूटर्स इण्डिया लिमिटेड, द्वारा निर्मित स्कूटर भी शामिल हैं।