

### Fresh Agreements between BHEL and SIEMENS

508. DR. BIJOY MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any fresh agreement between Bharat Heavy Electricals and Siemens of West Germany has been arrived at recently;

(b) if so, broad outlines of the agreement; and

(c) the terms of the agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY  
(SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

### Fall in Cement Production

509. SHRI S. S. SOMANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cement production has come down during the last six months;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) the details in this regard in the country;

(d) whether it is a fact that central industry circle blame coal and wagon shortage and the power crises in the country for further deteriorating performance of the cement units; and

(e) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY  
(SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) :

(a) to (e). The production of cement during January-June, 1979 has been 95.58 lakh tonnes against the production of 97.28 lakh tonnes in the previous six month period. Shortage of power, coal and railway wagons are important factors which have adversely affected production. The matter is, however, constantly being mentioned and wherever necessary is being taken up with the concerned authorities namely Railways, Department of Coal and the State Governments to improve supply of wagons coal and power. Besides, Government have allowed certain concessions to cement industry by grant of subsidy on use of captive power and use of furnace oil in place of coal so that any production

shortfall due to coal and power is minimised. The reimbursement of freight on movement of cement by road has also been liberalized so as to encourage despatches by road when there is shortage of wagons.

### Loss by C.C.I.

510. SHRI S. S. SOMANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government are bearing loss on Cotton Corporation of India ;

(b) whether it is a fact that purchases and sales of imported cotton have also declined; and

(c) if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY  
(SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The losses in the general trading operations of the Cotton Corporation of India are not borne by Government. Only in the case of specific agency-assignments entrusted to the Cotton Corporation of India (like the one involving massive imports of cotton during 1975-76 and 1976-77 when the Corporation was asked to sell the imported cotton at prices comparable to domestic varieties), Government agreed to reimburse the loss.

(b) and (c). In view of the improvement in the domestic production of cotton, no imports of cotton has been arranged after 1976-77 cotton season.

### Study of Problems of Small Scale Industries by the International Planning Team

511. SHRI YASHWANT BOROLE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Planning Team has studied the problem of Small Scale Industries in India and recently submitted its report ;

(b) what are the basic deficiencies in development of small scale industries that have been pointed out by them; and

(c) what steps are being taken up to improve the same ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY  
(SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) This Ministry is not aware of any International Planning Team having studied the problem of small scale industries and submitted a report recently.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.