JUNE 11, 1980

401. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEK-HARA MURTHY:

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KOCHAK:

Will the Minister of HOME AF-FAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country is losing Rs. 300 crores per month due to the prolonged Assam agitation;

(b) if so, whether Rs. 100 crores are by way of petroleum products and Rs. 200 crores indirectly through loss of essentia) items like fertilizer, cement and steel;

(c) the total loss suffered due to this uptil now; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to overcome these losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF THE HOME AF-FAIRS: (SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-WANA): (a) to (d) The continuing agitation in Assam has disrupted nonmal economic activity in particular in that State and in general in the rest of the country. Developmental activities not only in Assam but also in the North-Eastern region have received a serious setback. The three refineries in Assam were closed down towards the end of December 1979 followed by closure of Barauni refinery on 2nd January, 1980. Apart from other petroleum products, the daily loss of diesel and kerosene production in these four refineries has been about 5,000 tonnes and a little over 1,000 tonnes respectively. About 4,25,000 tonnes of crude are processed on an average every month in these four refineries. Through the refineries in Digbhoj and Gauhati have started functioning recently, the 3.3 million tonnes refinery at Barauni as well as the refinery at Bongaigon still

remain closed. When all the four refineries are closed, the loss is about Rs. 3 crores per day. Production in other vital sectors like fertilisers, steel, power and coal has also been affected. It is difficult to quantify the precise loss in this regard, which is however of considerable magnitude. The fall out of agitation has severely restricted new employment opportunities. The Government has been striving to bring about mormalcy in the State.

Report on lathi charge on blind students

402. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHE-KHARA MURTHY:

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KOCHAK:

Will the Minister of HOME AF-FAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report on the lathic charge made on the procession of blind students on March 16, 1980 has been received by Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations;

(c) whether Government have examined the recommendations; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AF-FAIRS: (SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-WANA): (a) to (d) The Report has been received by Delhi Administration and it is under examination by the Administration.

Performance of State Enterprises

403. SHRI P. M. SAYED: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has asked States to pay particular attention to the performance