

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) to (c). Many of the sugar factories in Bihar, most of which were established about 40 years ago, have not been systematically modernised or rehabilitated. The Government have been implementing, through Central financial institutions, a scheme of soft loans for helping such factories with uneconomic capacities and old machinery. But progress in availing of this assistance has been poor, mainly due to alleged difficulties in meeting some of the conditions of the soft loan scheme.

Scholarship to Foreign Students Studying in India

3751. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI:** Will the **MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign students who have been granted scholarships by the Government of India and are studying in various colleges in the country at present; and

(b) the total amount being spent by Government on these scholarships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Chattam Saw Mills of Andaman Islands

3752. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:** Will the Minister of **AGRICULTURE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether **Chattam Saw Mills** owned by the **Forest Department** **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**, is running in heavy losses;

(b) if so, the losses incurred during the past 3 years;

(c) the capacity of production of the mills in **CBM** in 8 hours running

and the actual production made during the last 3 years.

(d) whether Government are reducing the workers strength gradually and if so, the reason thereof;

(e) whether Government will consider to get the saw mill separated from the **Forest Department** accountancy for the benefit of the mill and the workers and if not, why not; and

(f) whether Government propose to modernise the **Chattam Saw Mill** with modern equipments for economic viability and if so, when and if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). This is a departmental saw mill for which profit and loss account is not maintained separately. Hence, it is not possible to give yearwise figures.

(c) The installed capacity is 22 cubic metres in 8 hours. The actual production (yearwise) during the last 3 years has been as follows:

1977-78—6790 cubic metres

1978-79—9713 cubic metres

1979-80—9050 cubic metres.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). No such separation is under consideration for the present. However, it is proposed to modernise the mill and some new equipment has already been procured and installed. A Committee has also been set up to work out a programme for modernising and improving the working of the mill.