

general nature. India's policies in regard to private foreign investment as also transfer of technology was spelt out in the meeting. There was a general exchange of views on the possibilities of further cooperation between India and Federal Republic of Germany in industrial and related fields, namely, drugs and pharmaceuticals, coal, power, metal goods industries, steel, export oriented industries, joint ventures in third countries and technology transfer. No specific projects were discussed.

Bomb Threat to U.S. and U.K. Embassies in New Delhi

4187. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 9th November, 1980 that an anonymous telephonic bomb threat to the United States Embassy and the British High Commission at Chanakyapuri, New Delhi turned out to be a hoax ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). On 8-11-1980 an anonymous caller telephonically informed the United States Embassy and British High Commission at Shanti Path that bombs have been planted in their premises. The Embassy Officials informed the Special Task Force office at Chanakyapuri at about 1.10 P.M. Immediate action to locate the explosives and to defuse the same was taken. However, it turned out to be a hoax.

(c) Immediate action is taken whenever information about such a threat is received. Efforts are also made to trace the anonymous caller.

Self Reliance in Ships for Defence

4188. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state how far we are self reliant in ships meant for Defence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M. HIVRAJ V. PATIL) : The country has acquired capability for designing and

building various types of ships required by the Indian Navy. The types of ships that have been built and are being built in the country include modern Frigates, Survey Vessels with advanced electronic, gadgetary, Seaward Defence Boats, Ocean Going Tugs Minesweepers, Survey craft and other harbour and auxiliary vessels like dredgers, tugs, barges, etc. Indigenous content in the production of the Naval ships has also been constantly increasing in terms of both percentage and advanced equipments and systems to be installed.

News Item captioned "Kissa Kursi Ka" in HEC, Ranchi

4189. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item under the caption "Kissa Kursi Ka" in Heavy Engineering of Ranchi ;

(b) if so, facts thereof ; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT GHANANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c). Shri A. C. Chatterjee was appointed Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of the Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited Ranchi (HEC) in August, 1977. In terms of the letters of his appointment, he was to continue in that post upto June, 1981. However, due to the continued poor performance of the Corporation, Govt. decided in August, 1980 to replace him and appoint Shri S.R. Jain, then Managing Director of Bhilai Ispat Limited, in his place. The circumstances leading to this decision were personally explained to Shri Chatterjee. He was also assured that he would be granted all the benefits such as encashment of leave, gratuity, contributory provident fund, etc. that were admissible to him in terms of the letter of his appointment.

Subsequently, however, when Shri Jain reached Ranchi on 15th September, 1980 to take over charge as CMD, HEC, Shri Chatterjee declined to hand over charge to him, although he was asked to do so by Government in a telex message dated the 13th September, 1980. On the contrary, he filed a writ petition in the Ranchi Bench of the Patna High Court, challenging the instructions of the Government asking him to hand over charge.