

(d) what special plans and schemes have been drawn by Madhya Pradesh Government to free and rehabilitate bonded labour by 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b). According to the State Government, 1531 bonded labourers have been identified and freed. The figure of 5 lakhs perhaps relates to the estimate in the preliminary report of a survey on the incidence of Bonded Labour jointly conducted by the Gandhi Peace Foundation and the National Labour Institute in 1978. District-wise numbers are not available.

(c) and (d). States, including Madhya Pradesh, have been requested to take urgent and efficient steps including undertaking intensive surveys to identify, free and rehabilitate bonded labour wherever existing, in a time bound programme. The State Government have informed that they will be carrying out an intensive survey, on the results of which, they will formulate and furnish their rehabilitation programmes for bonded labour.

Closure of cement units in South..

392. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported that cement units in the South had been forced to close down for want of coal with the unilateral decision of the Railway Board to link all the Southern cement units with the Singareni collieries only;

(b) whether due to this sudden change in the policy most of the Southern units would get less than 40 per cent of their coal quota and thus would be in a deep crisis;

(c) if so, what were the main reasons for this decision and to what extent this decision has affected the cement units in the South;

(d) whether in view of the crisis Government have agreed to change the decision; and

(e) if so, to what extent the Ministry have initiated to save the cement units in the South?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (e). Cement units in the South normally get their requirements of coal from Singareni collieries as well as Chanda fields of Western Coalfields and Raniganj Fields of Eastern Coalfields. These linkages continue to be in force.

Industries with negative growth rate

393. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether as many as 59 major industries have shown a negative rate of growth going up to minus 72.2 per cent during the first 7 months of the current financial year i.e., 1980-81;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry which studied the growth pattern of 148 select industries also came to the conclusion that as many as 23 industries showed static 4 per cent growth rate during this period;

(c) if so, what is the position after 7 months of the current financial year;

(d) what were the main reasons for their minus growth;

(e) who were those 59 major industries which showed negative growth rate; and

(f) what action Government have taken now to check up this minus growth by those industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) and (e). A list of 59 industries showing negative growth rate during

the first seven months of the current financial year is given in Statement-I.

(b) and (c). A review of 148 selected industries based upon the provisional production data then available showed 23 industries in the range of growth rates of 0 to 5 per cent.

(d) and (f). The infrastructural gaps affecting industrial production have been receiving keen attention at the highest level and appropriate remedial measures have been taken to remove various constraints.

Statement-I

*List of 59 industries showing negative rates of growth during April—October, 1980**

1. Electricity generated
2. Soda Ash
3. Viscose Filament Yarn
4. Storage batteries
5. Newsprint
6. Bicycles
7. Motors, Starters and Contractors
8. Caustic Soda
9. ACSR/AAC
10. Polyester Fibre
11. Cycle Tyres
12. Cement
13. Cigarettes
14. Steel Castings
15. Leather footwear (Indian)
16. VIR/PVC
17. Wire Ropes
18. Vitamin 'A'
19. Saleable Steel (Main)
20. Sewing Machines
21. Penicillin

22. Biscuits
23. PILC
24. Transmission towers
25. Copper/Brass sheets and circles
26. Cement Machinery
27. Aluminium sheets and circles
28. Oxygen Gas
29. Rubber and Plastic accessories
30. Incandescent lamps
31. Welding electrodes
32. Polyethylene H.D.
33. Steel ingots (Main)
34. Cars
35. Viscose tyre cord
36. Boilers
37. Polystyrene
38. Nylon tyre cord
39. Nitrogenous fertilizers
40. Cellulose films
41. Zinc
42. Steel Pipes and tubes
43. Aluminium
44. D.D.T.
45. Calcium carbide
46. B.H.C. (Tech.)
47. Synthetic rubber
48. Streptomycin
49. Sulphur drugs
50. Vat dyes
51. Petroleum refinery products
52. Clocks
53. Petroleum crude

*Rates of growth are provisional and are subject to change.

Note : Rates of growth of cement machinery and boilers in terms of value at current prices are positive.

54. Viscose staple fibre
 55. P.V.C. Resins
 56. Razor Blades
 57. Sugar Machinery
 58. Malathion
 59. Sugar.

Steps to implement Agreements with A.I.D.E.F:

394. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Defence reached an agreement with the All India Defence Employees' Federation on 11th August, 1979 on some demands; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to implement the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

News-Item 'Park buys arms from Portugal'

395. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', New Delhi dated the 26th January, 1981 captioned 'Pakistan buys arms from Portugal'; and

(b) if so, his reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There is, however, no information to corroborate the alleged arms transaction worth over £ 1.25 million between them during the first half of 1980.

News Item "China tests I.R.B.M."

396. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item "China Tests I.R.B.M." appearing in the "Statesman", New Delhi dated the 21st January, 1981;

(b) whether this missile has a range of over a 2,500 k.m.; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) This test forms part of a series of similar tests which the Chinese are known to have been carrying out over the years. This test by itself does not pose any new threat to the security of India.

Production of Vijayanta Tanks

397. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of Vijayanta tanks in the Heavy Vehicles Factory at Avadi is just one third of its installed capacity,

(b) the reasons for lower capacity utilisation; and

(c) the action taken to improve the capacity utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). It is not correct that the production of Vijayanta Tanks in Heavy Vehicles Factory at Avadi is one third of its installed capacity. However, in some years, the production at the Factory has been somewhat lower than the installed capacity due to the following reasons:

(i) Inadequate supplies of components and raw material from trade.