

Distribution of Cement in Maharashtra

1838. SHRI MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is true that the distribution of Cement in Maharashtra from the ad-hoc allocations of cement from the Centre was not made strictly on the basis of the procedure prescribed by the State Government through its notification; and

(b) if so, will the Centre ensure that in the case of distribution of cement by Maharashtra Government from the ad-hoc quota of cement sent by the Centre, the procedures notified by it will be strictly adhered to

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b). The Cement Controller makes bulk allocation to every State Government in each quarter. A specified quantity is reserved out of it separately for irrigation and power and for small scale industries. Ad-hoc allocations of cement are made by the Cement Controller from time to time to the various State Governments in addition to the basic allocation. The distribution of the State's basic allocation as also of ad hoc allocation is done by the States at their discretion except the quantity pre-reserved for irrigation and power and small scale industries. The Central Government has not laid down any guidelines in this regard.

Palekar Award

1839. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed all State Governments in September, 1981 to submit a list of newspapers who have not yet implemented the Palekar Award;

(b) if no, the up-to-date list, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have directed the State Governments to take legal steps against the erring newspapers, if so, how many have prosecuted, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government propose to exempt small units who have less than 7 on staff, from the implementation of Palekar Award?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI DHARMA VIR): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b). A statement giving the information sent by State Governments during 1981-82 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See LT-3467/82].

(c). Yes, Sir. Available information on the legal steps taken by State Governments is indicated in the statement referred to above.

(d). No, Sir.

Regularization of Working of Agencies Recruiting Workers for Gulf Countries

1840. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to regulate the working of private agencies which are recruiting workers for employment in Gulf countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI DARMAVIR): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft Emigration Bill is in the final stages of consideration.

BHEL Pitted against French Concern

1841. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electricals is pitted against a French concern and several other European suppliers for the supply of electric drive systems of the proposed Virag Steel Plant; and