

ernment to see that such type of activities by bogus companies are checked?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) and (d). On receipt of complaints in this regard, a case u/s 420 IPC has been registered. The proprietor of the firm M/s. India Trade Agency and several other firms, has been apprehended on 26-2-82, and a large number of printed forms bearing the names of several firms and a huge volume of correspondence addressed to these firms, money order forms and other documents have been seized. Investigation of the case is still in progress. Action is taken as and when any complaints are made to the police about the activities of such bogus companies.

#### Soviet Assistance for Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

6276. SHRI B. V. DESAI:

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:  
SHRI CHIRANJI LAL  
SHARMA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approached the Soviet Union for credit to finance the second phase of construction of 3.4 m.t. Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(b) if so, whether the Soviet Union had already extended a credit of 250 million roubles for the first stage of the Plant which is being built with Soviet Technical assistance;

(c) whether the Vizag Project was originally expected to cost Rs. 2250 crore with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 500.22 crore but due to the delay in implementing the project the project costs are now pegged at Rs. 3,00,98.98 crore;

(d) if so, whether the Soviet Union has agreed to finance the second phase of the construction of this steel plant; and

(e) if so, the final decision in this regard likely to be taken by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a), (b), (d) and (e) Under the inter-Governmental Agreement dated June 12, 1979 between the Governments of India and of the USSR, the Soviet credit of Roubles 250 million made available earlier by the USSR is to be utilised for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. The Government of India has not as yet made a formal request for more credit for this project. However, the indications are that USSR Government will favourably consider a request for a further credit of Roubles 250 million for completion of the project.

(c) The total estimated cost, as sanctioned by Government in June 1979 for setting up an intergrated steel plant at Visakhapatnam, was Rs. 2,256 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 500.20 crores. While sanctioning this estimate, however, it was stipulated that detailed and firmed up project cost estimate supported by a Comprehensive Revised Detailed Project Report (CRDPR), incorporating modern technologies and finally determined product-mix, would be prepared. According to CRDPR, revised estimated cost of the project is Rs. 2,935.41 crores. With the margin money and interest during construction, the revised cost comes to Rs. 3098.98 crores. The project implementation has so far generally been as per the agreed schedules. The main reasons for increase in cost are: (i) change in volume of work, (ii) additional facilities and (iii) increase in prices.

#### Confusion by the new dual policy of cement

6277. SHRI B. V. DESAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new dual policy of cement pricing and distribution has resulted in confusion all over the country;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government are considering to give a fresh and clean directive in regard to the dual policy of the pricing and distribution;

(c) if so, what are the main details issued by the Ministry after this decision has been taken; and

(d) whether the same are being followed by the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (c). Government have announced partial de-control of cement with effect from 28-2-1982. A copy of Press Note issued in this connection setting out the details is laid on the Table of the House.

(Placed in Library. Sec No. LT-3807/82)

(d) Most of the State Governments have already issued necessary instructions/orders permitting sale of non-levy cement without any price and distribution control.

Meeting of National Development Council

6278. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the N.D.C. met on 14 March, 1982;

(b) if so, whether the subjects discussed included the increasing number of atrocities committed on weaker sections of the people;

(c) if so, what were the other subjects discussed; and

(d) the decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The law and order situation, particularly atrocities committed on weaker sections, was one of the items on the agenda for discussion. Though some of the participants expressed their views on this item, yet it could not be discussed fully due to paucity of time and its further discussion was postponed.

(c) The other subjects discussed were as follows:—

(1) 1982 as the year of Productivity.

(2) The revised 20-Point Programme.

(3) River water disputes—Modalities for rapid solution; and

(4) Finances of States and Plan Implementation.

(d) A Statement indicating the summing up in respect of the discussion at the meeting is attached.

#### Statement

Summing up in respect of the discussion at the meeting of the National Development Council held on 14th March, 1982

The Council expressed its satisfaction at the overall pace of implementation of the Sixth Plan in the first two years of the Plan. It emphasised that the recent improvement in economic situation ought to be utilised to further accelerate the tempo of economic and social progress so that we can move speedily towards the realisation of the goal of a self reliant economy.

2. The National Development Council reaffirmed its determination and commitment to mobilise requisite amount of resources to finance investments contemplated in the Sixth Plan, and the revised 20-Point Programme. The Centre and the States will work together to maintain financial discipline and contain deficit financing within safe limits.

3. The Council agreed that while every effort has to be made to step up investments in line with the targets of the Sixth Plan, it was equally necessary to take all possible steps to maximise the utilisation of existing capacities in agriculture and industry. In this context, emphasis was laid on fuller utilisation of existing irrigation potential and more efficient utilisation of power capacity. The Council agreed that in the current year which has been declared as the productivity year, it was essential to remove all obstacles including any Government policies, rules and procedures which come in the way of full utilisation of existing capacities. Industrial licensing procedures may need to be further streamlined to avoid cost and time over-runs.