

“Setting up of ecological task forces

*162. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) whether any significant progress has been made in the direction of setting up Ecological Task Forces for the preservation of ecological balance in the various States ;

(b) if so, the names of the States in which these Task Forces have already been set up along with the names of the districts selected for this purpose in the States concerned ; and

(c) if not the likely date which the Task Forces would be constituted and the nature of their composition and the pattern of their functioning ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It has been decided to create an Ecological Task Force of ex-servicemen in Uttar Pradesh. To start with, the afforestation work will be taken up in Dehra Dun and Mussoorie districts. The project in Himachal Pradesh are also under consideration ;

T.V. sets being sold cheapest in Goa

*163 SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether TV sets are selling cheapest in Goa due to abolition of Sales Tax there; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to bring down the prices of TV sets elsewhere also?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) :

(a) There is no sales tax on T.V. sets manufactured or assembled in the Union Territory of Goa, but Government have no information whether T.V. sets sold in Goa are the cheapest. Information in this regard is being collected in order to provide an illustrative statement to Parliament showing retail prices including the extent of local levies such as sales tax, of some standard models of all-India brands of Black & White sets in various States and Union Territories.

(b) Measures to reduce the consumer price of T.V. sets are under constant review. The sales tax ingredient in T.V. prices, is however, a State subject and hence likely to vary from State to State.

Mizo rebels move to create fresh hostilities

1525. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that renewed moves by the Mizo rebels to create fresh hostilities have started ;

(b) if so whether it is also a fact that Centre is not willing to open a fresh dialogue with their leaders ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Mizo rebels have started fresh attacks on the security force; and

(d) if so, the action Government propose to take to check their activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME

AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) Reports indicate that Mizo National Front which has already been declared unlawful under the unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, has plans to step up the so-called 'Quit Mizoram Movement'. They have also issued threats to MLAs and Village Council members belonging to Ruling party in Mizoram demanding their resignation.

(b) The Government had afforded opportunity and facility to MNF leaders on many occasions in the past to come to settlement. Their attitude continued to be intransigent. Their could be no question of opening a fresh dialogue, more so under the threat of recent violent activities. It is Government's hope that the misguided elements would shun the path of violence and come over-ground to live as law-abiding citizens.

(c) There have been 14 incidents of attacks on the security forces resulting in the death of 4 SF/police Personnel and 11 civilians.

(d) Mizoram authorities have already taken all possible precautionary measures to curb unlawful activities. Since January 1982, 206 arrests have been made and 462 undergrounds have surrendered. Sizeable quantity of arms and ammunition have also been recovered.

Setting up of Industries in Madhubani and Palamau, Bihar

1526. **SHRI BHOGENDR JHA** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1006 on 14 July, 1982, regarding setting up of industries in Madhubani and Palamau, Bihar and state ;

(a) whether examination of the report submitted by the task

force for nucleus plant for Madhubani and Palamau districts in Bihar alongwith linkage with subsidiary industries has been completed ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time schedule for setting up of the industries ;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(d) the specific details of the report of the task force ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAIN DATT TIWARI) : (a) to (d) The Task Force report has identified at appropriate locations in Palamau and Madhubani districts the establishment of 13 and 10 nucleus plants respectively along with their ancillary-downstream units.

The report is still under examination of the Government.

Production of Newsprint by Mysore Paper Mills

1527. **SHRI S. M. KRISHNA** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mysore Paper Mills have started commercial production of newsprint;

(b) if so, the established capacity of the plant and the actual production undertaken; and

(c) whether the mill has asked for certain price preference in view of the increased cost of production and also the sale of the imported newsprint ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) and (b) The newsprint project of the Mysore Paper Mills, for an installed capacity