

Allotment of cement to Gujarat State

7221. SHRI R.P. GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gujarat State Government has requested the Central Government to allot one lakh MT of cement as an additional quota for cyclone relief works;

(b) if so, how much quantity of cement has been allotted to the State so far for the purpose; and

(c) Whether this quantity represents the full demand made by the State Government; if not, reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 40,000 (Forty thousand) tonnes of levy cement has been allotted/released to the State Government of Gujarat for cyclone relief works during the period of October, 1982 to March, 1983.

(c) Due to shortfall in domestic production of cement because of sustained power cut of varying degree in the major cement producing States during the year 1982-83, it has not yet been possible to meet the entire additional requirement of cement.

Suspension of Government Employees

7222. SHRI MANOHAR LAL SAINI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government employees working in his Ministry and its attached and subordinate offices who are under suspension as on date and what are the reasons of their suspension;

(b) what safeguards are available to a suspended employee if he is neither informed of the reasons of suspension nor a charge sheet is served on him; and

(c) the circumstances under which an employee can be suspended under the clause 'disciplinary proceedings are contemplated'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI

NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) 368 Government employees are under suspension as on 1.3.1983. The reasons for their suspension broadly are alleged mis-appropriation/ embezzlement of Government money, insubordination, theft, serious negligence/irregularities, misconduct and moral turpitude; and criminal proceedings.

(b) A suspended Government employee has right of appeal against the order of suspension under Rule 23 (i) of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965.

A suspension order would generally contain the reasons for suspension of a Government employee. Where, however, a Government servant is placed under suspension on the ground of 'Contemplated' disciplinary proceedings, the existing instructions provide that every effort would be made to finalise the charges, against the Govt. servant within three months of the date of suspension. If in some cases it is not possible for one reason or the other to issue a charge sheet within this period; the reasons for suspension are required to be communicated to the Government servant concerned immediately on the expiry of the aforesaid time-limit prescribed for the issue of a chargesheet, so that he may be in a position to effectively exercise the right of appeal available to him.

(c) Public interest is the guiding factor to place a Government servant under suspension. A Disciplinary Authority may consider it appropriate to place a Government servant under suspension under the following circumstances:

(i) Cases where continuance in office of the Government servant will prejudice the investigation, trial or any inquiry (e.g., apprehended tampering with witnesses or documents ;

(ii) Where the continuance in office of the Government servant is likely to seriously subvert discipline in the office in which the public servant is working;

(iii) Where the continuance in office of the Government servant will be against the wider public interest e.g., if there is a public scandal and it is necessary to place the

Government servant under suspension to demonstrate the policy of the Government to deal strictly with officers involved in such scandals, particularly corruption;

(iv) Where allegations have been made against the Government servant and the preliminary inquiry has revealed that a prima facie case is made out which would justify the prosecution or his being proceeded against in departmental proceedings, and where the proceedings are likely to end in his conviction and/or dismissal, removal or compulsory retirement from service, and

(v) Where the public servant is suspected to have engaged himself in activities prejudicial to the interest of the security of the State.

Planning Units for Development of Tribal Areas

7223. SHRI JAI NARAYAN ROAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which the tribal areas have been developed in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to set up planning units at the district level/division level for the development of tribal areas and rural areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, what steps Government would take so that the tribal areas are developed in accordance with the target fixed in the Sixth plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) Though data from all States are not forthcoming, as per available information, irrigated area increased to 6,69,993 hectares in six states, area under soil conservation increased to 1,92,264 hectares in six States, area under horticulture increased to 1,15,604 hectares in six States, forest plantation increased to 1,94,179 hectares in six States, 88,811 hectares alienated land were restored to tribals in six States, 9,147 villages were provided with water supply in six States, and 7,816 villages were electrified in seven States. However, the States mentioned in the foregoing are not the same in all cases.

(b) The unit of planning and implementation of tribal sub Plan areas is the integrated tribal development project (ITDP) which functions at district or below level. In the tribal sub-plan areas, 181 ITDPs have been functioning.

(c) The project reports for I.T.D.Ps. are expected to be prepared by the project Administrators having regard to the natural resources, local needs and targets set forth.

Proposal to Repeal Section 5 of Official Secrets Acts

7224. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government have under consideration any proposal to repeal the Sec 5 of the Official Secrets Act; and

(b) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) and (b) The Second Press Commission has made certain recommendations on this subject. Those are being examined.

Formation of Chief Ministers Council on Centre-State Relations

7225. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that at a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry held on 20 March, 1983 a Chief Ministers' Council has been formed;

(b) if so, whether the meeting has suggested to the Centre the setting up of a fiscal commission with adequate State representation and statutory powers to review State-Centre relations over fiscal matters and recommend amendments to the Constitution and other enactments in the interest of a more equitable distribution of resources of the State; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI