WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Retrenched Staff of Rehabilitation Ministry

*1759. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) how far has the proposal to absorb the retrenched staff of the Rehabilitation Ministry in the slowly expanding Dandakaranya project been implemented; and
- (b) the number of retrenched personnel absorbed so far in the project?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Recruitment of staff in the Dandakaranya Project has been at a stand still for some time. If however the tempo of work there increases and more staff is required the claims of the rerenched staff of the Rehabilitation Ministry will naturally receive consideration.

(b) 3 retrenched persons and 12 others due for retrenchment.

Armed Forces Stationed in Nagaland

*1764. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the special powers vested in the armed forces stationed in the disturbed areas of Kohima and Mokokchung districts of Nagaland will be continued; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for the extension of the period of operation of the relevant order?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):
(a) and (b). The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Regulation, 1958, confers certain special powers upon the officers of the Armed Forces in the disturbed areas in Kohima and Mokokchung Districts of Nagaland to deal with unlawful acts and disturbances. There continues to be a need for the exercise of these special powers by the officers of the Armed Forces in their operations against the Naga hostiles.

The Regulation conferring these special powers has, therefore, been extended for a further period of one year beyond the 4th April, 1961.

Sale of Iron Ore to Japan

*1765. Shrimati IIa Pa!choudhuri: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Japan has agreed to purchase from India iron ore during the Third Five Year Plan period;
- (b) if so, the quantity which is likely to be purchased; and
- (c) the terms and conditions according to which the purchase will be made?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) and (c). Negotiations are in progress.

Simplification of Administrative Procedure

- *1770. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 568 on the 30th November, 1960 and state:
- (a) whether the discussions regarding the simplification of rules and regulations and procedures to promote efficiency and economy have been concluded; and
 - (b) if so, the result thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). The Planning Commission has concluded recently its discussions on administrative issues bearing on the Third Five Year Plan. The results of the discussion will be considered shortly by the Cabinet.

Interim Relief for Jute Workers

- *1771. Shri Indrajit Gupta: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:
- (a) how many jute mills have not so far implemented the Jute Wage