

former Minister in Punjab and Shri Darshan Singh Canadian, Secretary of the Punjab Unit of the Communist Party of India had recently written a letter to the State Governor urging him to enquire into the alleged excesses committed by the Punjab Police in the last one and half years in the name of fighting Naxalites ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government have reported that in every case of police encounter with the Naxalites, resulting in their death, a magisterial inquiry has been held and allegations made against the police are inquired into.

Take over of Tea Gardens in West Bengal and Assam

7636. **SHRI DINESH JOARDER :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a plan to take over the Tea Gardens of Assam ;

(b) whether Government have any plan to take over all the closed Tea Gardens of West Bengal and Assam ;

(c) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Upward Revision of Prices of Controlled Varieties of Cloth

7637. **SHRI K. C. PANDEY :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the textile industry has been urging for the upward revision of prices of controlled varieties of cloth ;

(b) the reasons for such a demand ; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI

A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The Indian Cotton Mills' Federation have urged an increase in the prices of controlled cloth on account of increase in prices of cotton, wages, stores, power, fuel, coal and dyes and chemicals and also due to increase in rates of interest and overhead charges.

(c) The matter has been referred to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices.

Playing of Cards by Central Government Employees

7638. **SHRI K. C. PANDEY :**
SHRI MUHAMMED
SHERIFF :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether her Ministry have issued instructions whereby playing of cards by the Central Government employees in the lawns has been prohibited in Delhi ; and

(b) if so, how, the instructions are proposed to be given a practical shape ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The Chief Security Officer in the Ministry of Home Affairs had addressed a letter in August, 1968, to Vigilance Officers of different Ministries in which he had suggested, among other things, that no Government employee should be allowed to play cards on the lawns and other places appurtenant to office buildings.

(b) Persons, if any, found violating these instructions are liable to disciplinary action by the concerned Ministry or Department.

Simplification of Foreign Trade Procedures

7639. **SHRI K. C. PANDEY :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign trade policy, in so far as imposed restrictions are concerned, does not cater for foreign investment in India ; and

(b) whether Government propose to simplify the foreign trade procedures ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Foreign trade policy is geared to the programming of import required for India's development programme,