

(b) the routes by which Government are taking salt to Eastern States of the country :

(c) whether there is every likelihood of the rise in price of salt in Eastern States if it is transported by means other than the Railways ; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check the rise in prices of salt in those States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Salt is moved normally by ships from the West Coast and Tuticorin to Calcutta, from where it is transported to the consuming areas in the Eastern States, via Farakka and Garhara. Some quantities are also moved by the all rail route.

(c) Although the all-rail route is slightly cheaper the price of salt in the retail is almost the same in both cases.

(d) If necessary, action will be taken under the Essential Commodities Act. Also more salt will be despatched if necessary.

Inhuman torture of a Harijan Woman

430. SHRI AMBESH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the result of the investigation made by the State C.I.D. in respect of a Harijan woman, Shrimati Bamwati, of village Lakhnupur of District Azamgarh of Uttar Pradesh who was allegedly hung nude up side down from a tree and made to suffer inhuman tortures by the U P Police ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : According to information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh these allegations have not been substantiated by the inquiries held by the State C.I.D. However, there was some suspicion that she, along with others, was intimidated and beaten in the course of interrogation in a murder case and further inquiries are being made.

Setting up of Colour Film Factory in Ootacamund

431. SHRI C. CHITTIBAHU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Colour Film Factory will be set up at Ootacamund in collaboration with a foreign company ; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) :
(a) and (b). M/s. Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited, Ootacamund is negotiating with a foreign collaborator for the manufacture of Colour Film in the country. Proposals are yet to be received from the company.

Manufacture of Scooters in Public Sector

432. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI :
SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF :
SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme to set up plants in the public sector for manufacturing scooters has since been finalised ; and

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) :
(a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Suspects arrested in District Cachar (Assam)

433. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI :
SHRI HARI SINGH :
SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of suspects arrested in the District of Cachar, Assam, since the blowing of a train in the middle of August, 1971; and

(b) What steps Government have taken to prevent the recurrence of such activities by the saboteurs ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : (a) According to information received from the Government of Assam since the middle of August, 1971, 65 persons have been arrested in district Cachar on suspicion of being saboteurs.

(b) All precautionary measures, including the strengthening of arrangements for the collection of advance intelligence, guarding of vital installations and vulnerable points, regulating entry into vulnerable places, patrolling of railway tracks and important road links, surveillance of persons likely to give shelter to Pakistani saboteurs etc. are being taken.

Strengthening of Border Security in Assam

434. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Assam has approached the Union Government for more financial assistance and personnel for strengthening the border security in Assam; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Various measures including the strengthening of the personnel engaged in border security duties have been taken to help Assam in the present situation.

The Chief Minister's request to the Centre for additional financial assistance in this connection is under consideration.

Small Car Project in Public Sector

835. SHRI M.M. JOSEPH :
SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI ;
SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the small car project in the public sector; and

(b) if so, the capacity of the project and the nature of the know-how which has been obtained from foreign collaboration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) :

(a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Ministerial responsibility re-executive Functions and Civil Servants

436. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in October, 1971, the Federation of Associations of Engineers and Technical Officers of West Bengal had demanded in the matter of the Chairman, Railway Board that the Centre should publicise the details of the case and clearly enunciate the principles of Ministerial responsibility and the limits of its authority as related to executive functions and Civil Servants; and

(b) if so, the main features of the demand and the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.