

Plan for Expanding public Sector for Export of non-traditional goods

970 SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to State,

(a) whether Government have drawn out a plan for expanding the role of public sector in export under a global strategy to spread out a wide range of non-traditional goods in the world market during 1972-73,

(b) if so, the salient features thereof, and

(c) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) (a) to (c). Export plans for public sector undertakings are prepared every year in which emphasis is laid on the export to include non-traditional goods. The STC and MMTC have been asked to include non-traditional goods of substantial value for export in their performance budget for 1972-73. The Projects & Equipment Corporation has recently been set up to specialise in larger ventures and turnkey projects concentrating in the fields of railway systems, public utilities, industrial plants and projects, castings, forgings, ancillary equipment, etc. which are completely non-traditional in nature. The HHEC which exports handicrafts and handlooms has been asked to take up specially the task of promoting exports of costume jewellery and ready-made fashion ware. Government have recently set up the Tea Corporation of India with a view to promote the export of packaged and banded Indian Tea.

Development of Signal Workshop Gorakhpur

971 SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to State

(a) Whether there is any proposal to produce sophisticated Signal Instruments in Signal Workshop at Gorakhpur, and

(b) if so, the amount spent in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) (a) Yes

(b) The proposal is under finalisation

Conversion of Metre Gauge Into Broad Gauge Line between Barabanki and Barauni (North Eastern) Railway

972 SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to State

(a) whether the Survey and Engineering report to effect the conversion of Metre Gauge into Broad Gauge between Barabanki and Barauni Railway Station, (North Eastern Railway) has been examined and approved by his Ministry, and if so, the action taken in this regard so far, and

(b) the progress made so far on the conversion of Metre Gauge line from Bhatni to Mandladih into Broad Gauge line?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) (a) The reports have been examined and the conversion of the Barabanki-Samastipur (Barauni) metre gauge section via Muzaffarpur has been approved. The work has been included in the 72-73 Budget.

(b) Conversion of the Mandladih (Varanasi) Bhatni Metre Gauge section to broad gauge is not being considered at present.

Setting of Thermal power Station in Uttar Pradesh

973 SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to construct a Thermal Power Station near Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh to meet the shortage of power, if so, the action taken so far in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREFL) The Uttar Pradesh Government have submitted a scheme for the installation of two units