Proposal to make the charging of High Prices a Cognisable Offence

1250. SHRI R. K. SINHA: SHRI P. GANGADEB:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government contemplate to make the charging of high prices a cognizable offence to enable initiation of penal proceedings against traders who indulge in profiteering; and
- (b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this respect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Essential Commodities of mass consumption are covered by the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and all offences punishable under this Act already stand declared cognizable.

(b) Does not arise.

Demand for Cement Factories in Mysore

1251. SHRI DHARMARAO AFZAL-PURKAR: Will the Minister of IN-DUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a memorandum has been submitted by the Government of Mysore to the Central Government requesting for setting up in Mysore two out the four Cenient factories which the Cement Corporation of India intends to start; and
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDLHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) In May, 1972, a proposal was received from the Government of Mysore for the setting up of a cement factory at Chitapur. Gulbarga District in Mysore by the Cement Corporation of India.

(b) Cement Corporation of Indiahas already set up a cement plant with a capacity of 2 lakh tonnes per annum at Kurkunta in Gulbarga district of Mysore and the plant is expected to go into the commercial production shortly. As Chitapur is only about 30 kms from this plant site, it was not considered economic to set up another new units at Chitapur. Cement Corporation are also considering the question of enhancing the capacity of Kurkunta factory by taking up production of slag cement.

उद्योगों को हुई स्रति

1252- भी महादीपक सिंह शावय: श्री राम सहाय पांडे:

क्या भौद्योगिक विकाम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि विद्युत की कमी के कारण जनवरी, 1971 से भाज तक उद्योगों को राज्यवार कितनी हानि हुई भौर इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

प्रोद्योगिक विकास मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद): प्रविकास राज्यों ने बताया है कि यद्यपि वहां विद्युत की कमीं थी लेकिन उत्पादन में हुई हानि का ब्यौरा उनके पास उपलब्ध नहीं है। हां, तकनीकी विकास के महानिदेशालय ने बताया है कि कुछ उद्योगों की उत्पादन विवरणियों में कमी दिखाई दी है जिसका कारण विद्युत की कमी है, विवरण संलम्न है।