

Setting up of Cement Units in Joint Sector in Cooperation with Big Business Houses

330. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sought the Cooperation of some big business houses in the country in setting up Cement manufacturing units in the joint sector;

(b) if so, the reasons that prompted Government to seek such co-operation from big business houses; and

(c) whether there has been any favourable response from the parties concerned?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Consumer Goods Industry in Public Sector

331. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision on the proposal to set up consumer goods industries in the public sector; and

(b) if so, the outlines of the decision?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). It is one of Government's objectives to expand and extend the role of the public sector into new fields, including production of mass-consumption goods in which significant production gaps are likely to develop in the future. Co-operatives and small and medium

entrepreneurs will also be encouraged to participate in the production of mass-consumption goods.

Foreign Assistance sought for developing Space Technology and Research

332. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has sought assistance from foreign countries in developing space technology and research;

(b) if so, the names of countries from where assistance is expected; and

(c) what exactly is the assistance sought for?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (c). India has collaborative programmes with a number of countries including the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Japan, U.K., U.S.A. and U.S.S.R.

The collaborative programme cover joint experiments from Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station to study upper atmosphere, ionosphere and conduct other scientific experiments. India is also co-operating with the Hydro Meteorological Department of USSR on meteorological studies. With the U.S.A., cooperative studies have been made in the past about the use of Communications Satellite for Television and Telecommunication in India. There is an agreement with NASA to conduct the Satellite Instructional Television Experiment in 1975. The entire ground work including the earth station, television sets, programmes, etc. are being developed by India. Collaboration with France has included the fabrication under licence in India of Centaure sounding rockets.

Indian Space Research Organisation maintains close contacts with their counterparts in the countries mentioned above in the implementation of the cooperative programmes.

Launching of Rocket 'Rohini 560' from Sriharikota

333. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an indigenously developed two stage rocket—Rohini 560—was recently launched from the rocket launching station at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the rocket functioned normally;

(c) how long it will take to develop rockets capable of delivering satellites to outer space; and

(d) whether India has any plan to launch earth satellites; and if so, the outline of the plans?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The time taken to develop rockets capable of launching satellites depends on a number of factors. The present assessment is that we will develop capability to launch a scientific satellite by 1976-77.

(d) Yes, Sir. Details of our plans for launching satellites are given in the book entitled "Atomic Energy and Space Research—A Profile for the Decade 1970—80", copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. These details are being updated for incorporation in the Fifth Five Year Plan.

Applications for Expansion and New Industrial Licences in 1972

334. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received in 1972 for expansion programmes and for new industrial licences;

(b) the items and capacities under each head;

(c) in how many cases approval has been given and licences granted; and

(d) when are they expected to materialise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) During 1972, 1973 applications for the establishment of 'New Undertaking' and 408 for effecting 'substantial expansion' have been received.

(b) These applications mainly relate to the following industries:—

1. Metallurgical Industry.
2. Electrical equipment.
3. Chemicals.
4. Textiles.
5. Wheat products and processed food.
6. Industrial Machinery.
7. Transportation.

It will be a difficult task to analyse all the applications and give the capacities asked for in each industrial sector.

(c) Against these, 9 industrial licences and 97 letters of intent have been issued for the establishment of 'new undertakings' and 7 industrial licences and 11 letters of intent for effecting 'substantial expansion'.