

Statewise Issuance of Letters of Intent in 1973 for Scooter Units

2626. SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZAL-PURKAR: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Letters of Intent issued during the current year for scooter units, State-wise; and

(b) the number of the units which have started their work independently with collaboration of other countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Two, one for West Bengal and one for Kerala.

(b) Two units have started manufacture independently without any collaboration.

Contract with USSR Organisation for Feasibility Study for Mining Operations in Malanjkhand Copper Project in Madhya Pradesh

2627. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government for a contract with a U.S.S.R. Organisation for preparation of feasibility study for Mining Operation in the Malanjkhand Copper Project in Madhya Pradesh and for setting up a concentration plant; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b). Negotiations with the concerned U.S.S.R. Organisations are in progress for finalising the scope and terms of the feasibility study to be prepared by them for Mining Operations and for setting up of a concentrator plant at Malanjkhand. An Indian team recently visited U.S.S.R. for detailed discussions on this subject.

East African British Passport Holders of Indian origin Locked up in Delhi Jails

2628. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 105 out of 109 East African British Passport Holders of Indian origin are locked up in Delhi jails on the charge of criminal trespass for want of sureties because there is none in this country related to them;

(b) whether all of them are students and wanted to fly to London as they are British Passport holders; and

(c) the reasons why this treatment is meted out to them instead of correcting and completing their travel documents and providing other facilities to them to proceed to London?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDER PAL SINGH):

(a) No, Sir. All the 107 U.K. passport holders, earlier released on bail, were acquitted by the court on 3rd August, 1973.

(b) The passport holders comprised businessmen, house-wives, students and youth. On their return from Bangkok to Delhi on tickets Delhi-Bangkok-Delhi, they insisted they should be flown to London by the Pan American aircraft which had brought them to Delhi.

(c) Since none of the U.K. passport-holders had either proper documentation to enter U.K. or held tickets to travel to London, the Airline expressed its inability to comply with their request. The U.K. passport-holders refused to disembark from the aircraft, thus preventing the aircraft from continuing its flight and thereby causing hardship to passengers travelling by that aircraft and dislocation in the smooth functioning of the airport. After all efforts to persuade them voluntarily to leave the aircraft had failed, they were removed from the aircraft.