

Committee to tackle the Problems of Entrepreneurs in setting up Industries in Backward Areas

413. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the desirability of setting up committees on the lines of the Committee to review the letters of intent issued for manufacture of passenger cars to enquire into the difficulties being faced by the entrepreneurs for setting up their industries to whom letters of intent have been issued during the last two years and no headway could be made particularly in the backward areas to rejuvenate the industrial development of the country; and

(b) if so, when such Committees are likely to be set up with names of the industries and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). There is no proposal before the Government to appoint such Committees for every industry. Government have, however, been reviewing from time to time the progress made by holders of letters of intent for various industries with a view to assess the progress made for implementing the projects. With the establishment of a unified Secretariat for Industrial Approvals, the progress of implementation of letters of intent will be reviewed on a more systematic basis.

Generation of Nuclear Power to meet the Country's need for Power

414. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many MWS of nuclear power are needed by the country and how far the power stations currently

in operation or under construction are likely to achieve the targets by the end of the Fifth Plan; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to generate enough nuclear power for the needs of the country?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). During the recent past there has been sufficient evidence to show that there is an urgent need to increase the electrical generating capacity in India and it is recognised that nuclear power, particularly from fast breeder reactors, will have to contribute an increasingly significant proportion of the total energy produced in the country in view of the depleting fossil fuel resources position in the country. The Plutonium that will fuel the fast breeder reactors, will be available from the power reactors of the CANDU type that are under erection now and in the future. By the end of the Fifth Plan, it is expected that 940 MWe of Capacity in CANDU reactors will be generating power. Resources permitting the programme will be stepped up subsequently, once indigenous capability in fabricating the extremely sophisticated equipment is firmed up and with the increase in unit-size from 235 MWe to 500 MWe.

Power Crisis

415. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the *Indian Express* dated the 3rd October, 1973 wherein Mr. Devd Gosling, a former lecturer in physics at St. Stephen's College, New Delhi, is stated to have said that India may face a serious power crisis un-