

Establishment of leaf threshing plant in India Tobacco Company at Bangalore

6311. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company has sought for and obtained Government sanction for establishment of a new leaf threshing plant within the premises of the India Tobacco Company's factory at Bangalore;

(b) if so, whether this application has been cleared by the MRTP Commission; and

(c) if the answer to (a) is in the negative, whether he is aware that the company is already constructing the new plant, which amounts to unauthorised expansion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M B RANA):

(a) to (c) It has been reported that a Green Leaf Threshing Plant is being set up in the premises of the Cigarette factory of M/s India Tobacco Co Ltd at Bangalore. This proposal is yet to be considered from the MRTP angle.

Death Sentence to Shri Amrit Bhushan Gupta

6312 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether one Amrit Bhushan Gupta was sentenced to death for having burnt alive three children at Srinivaspuri, New Delhi in June, 1968;

(b) if so, whether he has been sent to the Ranchi Mental Hospital in December, 1972 for tests as to his sanity;

(c) whether any report has since been received from the Hospital Authorities; and

(d) what action Government propose to take in the matter in view of the long delay since sentence was passed for the crime?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Amrit Bhushan Gupta was sent to the Ranchi Mental Hospital and a report from the medical authorities has been received.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

Recession in Radio Industry

6313 SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

(a) whether radio industry in the country has not been able to come out of recession since 1970;

(b) whether Government have made any study as to the causes thereof, and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to remove the difficulties faced by the industry?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Government are aware that there has been a slowing down in the growth rate of the Radio Industry in the country since 1970. The production during 1972 and 1973 has remained almost at the same level as in 1971. This is due to a variety of factors the most important of which are the erosion in the purchasing power of the people to buy radio sets and the restricted choice of programmes in the rural areas. Other factors include the general increase in prices