

Shortage of Calcium Carbide

1174. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of calcium carbide in the country as appeared in a Delhi paper dated the 4th June, 1974;

(b) whether this has affected several industries; and

(c) if so, facts thereof and steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) to (c). There is a shortage of calcium carbide in the country. The indigenous production of calcium carbide during 1973-74 was of the order of 62,000 tonnes against an estimated requirement of 70,000 tonnes. A total quantity of 3809 tonnes was imported in 1973-74. The shortage has mainly affected production of dissolved acetylene gas and P.V.C. through the calcium carbide route. There are at present five plants manufacturing calcium carbide with an installed capacity of 73,700 tonnes per annum.

A target of 2,15,000 tonnes per annum was fixed for the Fifth Five Year Plan. A total capacity of 3,59,000 tonnes per annum has been approved under Industrial Licences and Letters of Intent.

Government Advertisements to Anti-National and Regional Fanatical Papers

1175. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether anti-national and regional fanatical papers are also given advertisements by Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) and (b). Advertisements are not issued to such newspapers and periodicals as indulge in virulent propaganda inciting communal passions or preach violence, or offend socially accepted conventions of public decency and morals, thus undermining the basic national interests.

Demand for a Judicial Inquiry into the causes of Shri J. N. Gaur's Suicide

1176. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Radio and T. V Centre Employees Association have demanded a judicial inquiry into the causes leading to Shri J. N. Gaur's suicide; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) and (b). Some representatives have been received. According to the Police Report which has been received recently suicide by Shri Gaur has been established. Further action is under examination.

Perfection in know-how in the field of Technology

1177. SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the branch of technology where Indian know-how has achieved perfection?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): The

country has over the years developed a certain degree of technological competence in a number of areas such as agricultural genetics, railways, textile technology, construction technology, production of nuclear isotopes, machine tools etc. Indian Engineering Industry has reached a technologically advanced stage to offer assistance to developing countries in setting up production facilities for a wide range of products. Efforts are being made to improve on achievements by pursuing research in various areas, as improving technology is a continuing process, and there is no such thing as achieving perfection in any branch of Technology.

Microwave link between India and Sri Lanka

1178. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:
SHRI BANAMALI BABU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the progress made in setting up microwave link between India and Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (PROF. SHER SINGH): The survey and engineering of the proposed Indo-Sri Lanka Wideband Microwave Scheme in both the countries has been completed. The survey has been conducted jointly by Indian and Sri Lanka Telecommunication Engineers and after considering various alternative routes it has been agreed that the link will be Colombo-Anuradhapura - Mannar - Rameswaram-Madurai route. A formal memo of understanding is to be executed between the two Governments in the next few months.

Request by Bangladesh for assistance in the development of an Electronic Institute

1179. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:
SHRI BANAMALI BABU:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been received from the Government of

Bangladesh for assistance for the development of an electronic institute; and

(b) whether Government of India have considered the request, and if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Super Thermal Power Station in Andhra Pradesh

1180. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to install a super thermal power station in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what would be the estimated cost and capacity thereof; and

(c) by what time the decision will be finalised?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Possibilities of a proposal to instal a large thermal power station are under consideration of the Site Selection Committee for Large Thermal Stations in coal bearing areas set up by the Government of India.

The report of the Committee is expected to be finalised shortly. After getting the report the exact location of the power stations will be known.

बिहार संसद एम्प्लॉइज एसोसिएशन द्वारा प्रस्तुत प्रश्न

1181. श्री रामाचलार कास्त्री : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार संसद एम्प्लॉइज एसोसिएशन ने मई 1974 में उनको कोई प्रश्न पूछा था;