

technical specifications and were ignored. The order was divided between the other two offers, as follows:—

Large Scale Unit:	46.5 M/Ts
Small Scale Unit:	42.5 M/Ts

A price preference of about 9 per cent was given to the small scale unit. A portion of the order was, however, given to the large scale unit to ensure prompt delivery.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The lowest offers are sometimes ignored for valid reasons. However, statistics are not maintained and it is considered that the time and labour involved in collecting the same would not be commensurate with the results.

T.B. among Government Employees

4266 SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tuberculosis continues to be major health hazard in the country;

(b) whether quite a good number of Government employees in Delhi suffer from suppressed T.B.; and

(c) whether Government have any scheme of screening the employees every year and if not, the reasons for the apathy to combat the disease?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) Yes.

(b) No information is available about suppressed T.B. cases.

(c) No scheme has been planned as there is no evidence to indicate that the incidence of T.B. among Government servants is higher than among the general adult population.

Alleged Misappropriation Cases in Khetri Copper Project

4267. SHRI SHIV NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether C.B.I. is investigating some serious bungling/misappropriation cases in purchases of materials in Khetri Copper Project;

(b) if so, the facts of such cases, and

(c) the action being initiated against the officers whose integrity appears to be doubtful?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It would not be in the public interest to disclose the details till the C.B.I. complete their investigations.

(c) Decision on action to be taken will follow the completion of investigations by the C.B.I.

Loan to Bangladesh

4268 SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has decided to grant an emergent loan of Rs 10 crores to Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The credit is meant to finance supplies of POL products, salt, pig iron and cement from India to Bangladesh.

The credit carries 5 per cent rate of interest per annum. The principal is repayable in two equal instalments on 30th September, 1977 and 30th September, 1978.