

programme of education and public health for *Dalit* women and girls needs to be launched.

The resource base and the social and cultural heritage of our Scheduled Tribes population is getting eroded through a combination of development interventions, commercial exploitation and ineffective legal and administrative systems. The trend needs to be arrested as it can undermine the very survival of these communities. There is growing articulation and recognition of the fact that mega projects in irrigation, power and transport often disrupt the life and environment of a large number of Scheduled Tribes families, while the benefit of these projects mainly accrue to the population in the plains. Measures for relief and rehabilitation in such cases have been neither imaginatively conceived nor wholeheartedly implemented. It is necessary that the planning and administrative machinery at different levels show greater awareness and sensitivity to this dimension of development and take steps to ensure that the lives of Scheduled Tribes are not disrupted in the name of national progress. More positively, programmes need to be devised with the involvement of the Scheduled Tribes themselves as per the priorities perceived by them in order to remove economic, educational and social disparities to which they are subject. The lines of action here would include, besides access to minimum social services, assistance in scientific resource conservation, construction of small water harvesting and storage systems, restoration of their traditional rights to forest produce and direct links with market and strengthening of their traditional community organisations.

[*Translation*]

Allotment of Kerosene Depot and Fair Price Shops

*189. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of licences for fair prices shops and kerosen oil depots given during the last three years in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that underhand transactions are rampant in grant of licences;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to get the matter investigated; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) Delhi Administration issued licences for 595 Fair Price Shops and 90 Kerosen Oil Depots, during the period.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Rationalisation Plan for NTC Mills

*190. SHRI M.V. CHAN-
DRASHEKARA MUR-
THY:
SHRI PRAKASH KOKO
BRAHMBHATT:

Will the minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Textile Corporation has decided to resort to labour rationalisation on a mass scale and propose to resort to mass retrenchments during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details of the Plan for rationalisation as well as retrenchment; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to provide employment to retrenched employes?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.