

technology development. These pertain to various aspects of the leather industry.

At present, a composite (Umbrella) programme proposal for the Leather Industry is in the process of being formulated in consultation with UNDP/UNIDO. The proposal of CLRI would also be considered while finalising this programme proposal.

Insurgency in Manipur

*108. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a report in the 'Indian Express' dated January 13, 1991 suggesting that certain insurgent outfits like the people's Liberation Army operating in Manipur have established links with Burma and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether these insurgent outfits of Manipur have links with other such groups in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Attention of Government has been drawn to the information contained in the newspaper report. However, it is not in the security interest of the country to give details.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

White Paper on Public Sector

*109. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the white paper proposed to be issued on the performance of the Public Sector; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Problem of Child Labour

*110. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of child labour has increased in different States in recent years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether International Labour Organisation in its reports has recently drawn attention to the problem of child labour;

(d) if so, the details of the observations in respect of India; and

(e) the specific steps taken by the Government in this regard to keep the Children away from employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN): (a) to (e). Statements I and II are given below.

STATEMENT — I

According to the Census reports of 1971 and 1981, the number of child workers in the country upto the age of fourteen years was