

13.28 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
NINETEENTH REPORT

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO (Chattrapur): Sir, I beg to present the Nineteenth Report of the Committee on Petitions.

CORRECTION OF ANSWERS TO
S.Q NO 332 DATED THE 14TH
MARCH, 1973 RE SETTING UP OF
INDUSTRIES IN BIHAR IN PUBLIC
SECTOR—Contd.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): I beg to lay on the Table a further statement giving reasons for delay in correcting the reply vide statement made on the 1st August 1974 on Starred Question No. 332 dated the 14th March, 1973 by Shri Ishwar Chaudhary regarding setting up of industries in Bihar in Public Sector

Statement

The Starred question No. 332, which was fixed for reply in the Lok Sabha on 14-3-73, sought information on the point as to whether the Government proposed to set up new factories in the public sector in Bihar during 1973-74 and if so the broad outlines thereof.

The question related to all new factories in the public sector and was not limited to the factories to be set up under the administrative control of the Ministry of Industrial Development. It was, therefore, necessary to collect information relating to this question from the other Ministries and Departments of the Government of India also. The requisite information was not received from all the Ministries or Departments in time. However, the material furnished, by the Planning Commission revealed that there was no proposal to set up new factories in the Public Sector in Bihar during 1973-74.

On the basis of the information available in the Ministry of Industrial Development and that furnished by the Planning Commission, the question was answered on the due date of the 14th March, 1973 to the effect that there was no proposal of setting up new factories in the public sector in Bihar in the year 1973-74.

Subsequently, information was received from the Department of Food in August 1973 that two rice mills were proposed to be set up by the Food Corporation of India at Chaanpatia and Purnea in Bihar. The Department was requested to clarify whether the two rice mills were expected to come up in 1973-74. It was clarified by the Department of Food in November 1973 that the mill at Chaanpatia had already been commissioned in August 1973 while the other mill at Purnea was also expected to come up in the year 1973-74, itself. On receiving this information, it appeared necessary to correct the answer given earlier to the Lok Sabha question. However, as even by that time information relating to the question had not been received from all the Ministries, it was felt that the necessary correction should be made only after the replies were received from all the Ministries and the possibility of further corrections being necessary could be ruled out. The matter was pursued with other Ministries and the final reply from the Ministry of Heavy Industry was received on 29-3-74.

Before taking steps to correct the earlier reply given to the Lok Sabha question, the latest position of the establishment of two rice mills at Chaanpatia and Purnea was again checked from the Department of Food. It was intimated by that Department on the 22nd May, 1974 that the mill at Purnea, which was earlier expected to come up in 1973-74, was likely to be completed by July 1974.

The amendments to the answer given earlier to the question were then finalised and sent to the Lok Sabha