

ment of West Bengal on 26th February, 1985, trade union representatives, *inter-alia*, demanded that all closed and locked out jute mills should be reopened failing which Government of India should take them over immediately. In this connection, it may be mentioned that closure/Lockout comes under the purview of the Industrial Disputes Act and the State Government is the appropriate authority for matters dealing with industrial disputes. It is, therefore, for the State Government of West Bengal to take appropriate action in the matter.

Take-over of an industry is the last resort of reactivating sick units. Government's role is primarily to monitor and coordinate measures aimed at revival of the sick units, coupled with assistance from banking and financial institutions who are primarily responsible to take remedial measures, inclusive of financial and managerial restructuring of the units in order to rejuvenate the industry.

Second Steel Plant In Orissa

*257. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether second steel plant in Orissa is being established during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any foreign collaboration in this regard is under negotiation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) and (b). Government's decision to set up steel plant at Daitari region in Orissa remains unaltered. The likely schedule of setting up of the plant will depend upon the investment decision which has yet to be taken.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Drop in Central Government Deposits

*258 SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a drop in the Central Government Deposits during the last two months, January and February, 1985;

(b) if so, the details there of; and

(c) the reasons for such heavy transfers of resources from the Central pool to banking system ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) to (c). The arrangement with Reserve Bank is that whenever cash balance of Central Government is very high it should be brought down by premature cancellation of Treasury Bills held by Reserve Bank. Through this arrangement the idle surplus cash balance which does not earn any interest is utilised to reduce Government's interest bearing liability to RBI. This does not represent transfer of Centre's resources to banking system. The cancellation of Treasury Bills is covered by Appropriation sanctioned by Parliament.

Setting up of Divisional Offices of L.I.C. in Jammu and Kashmir

*259. PROF SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation of India has set up Divisional Offices in all the big cities in India;

(b) whether he is aware that Divisional Offices of Life Insurance Corporation of India have been set up at the capitals of all the States except Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) if so, whether Divisional Offices will be set up in near future at Srinagar and Jammu ?