

the defects in the administration are concerned, I shall myself look into them and, if I get some information, I will certainly act on it.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : There is an ilmenite factory at Gopalpur, in my constituency, in Orissa. Is there any proposal to set up a titanium factory or to export the concentrate from that place ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I need notice for this.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Trivandrum is the most adjacent place to Kanya Kumari. We have a titanium factory there which was started before Independence. It is very painful that no development has been made in that industry there for the last 50 years. The raw material is sufficiently available there. May I know from the hon. Minister whether immediate steps would be taken for the development of that industry there ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : This kind of industry is something special. I am not sure whether we would be able to fulfil the need for establishing industries in the non-industry areas by establishing industries of this kind. Of course, if it is possible, it could be done. But if it is not possible, it cannot be done.

Export of Computers

*471. **SHRIMATI USHA CHAUDHARI :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India will export computers to other countries;

(b) if so, the details of the computers proposed to be exported and the names of the export firms; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to increase the production of computers in the country so as to reach to the needy persons in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPA-

RTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s Processor Systems (I) Limited will design, develop and export the prototype of computer to Japanese firm under the contract for design and development of sophisticated fourth generation computer systems. The work includes development of both hardware and software. The scope of the design and development work and details of these computer systems are as follows:—

- (1) Two 32 bit host computers and eighty terminals for computer based education system, with memory module, disc controller module, LAN module, terminal module, voice synthesizer module, video mixer module, etc.
- (2) Operating systems software.
- (3) Basic software for computer based education system.

M/s Hindustan Computers Limited, Noida. has exported computers to Singapore. The computer is a Local Area Network based system with locally developed network software.

(c) The new computer policy announced by the Government of India, Department of Electronics on November 19, 1984 and the integrated policy announced on March 21, 1985 are aimed at promoting computer industry in the country and increase the production of computers at lower cost.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA CHAUDHARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether our country is considered an advanced country in the field of technology? The Scientists of our country are known in the world for their ability next only to those in the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. Labour cost is also

very low here. A maximum of the computer parts and other machinery are being manufactured here. To formulate a useful policy in respect of prices and the quality and quantity thereof, we make more provision for the Government agency so that all the parts may be manufactured in our own country? What proposals do you have in this regard?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : It is correct that electronics technology is progressing on a large scale in our country and in the world at large. It is necessary for us to keep pace with the advanced technology. Recently, our Government have taken many steps in this direction so that the electronics industry could be developed in the country. Last year in November, sufficient efforts were made to increase the production of computers and our production did increase. For the export of computers also, we have formulated a new policy. This year also, we have given a package of policies to the country, our object being to encourage this industry. So far as manpower is concerned, we have no dearth of it. We have electronic man power with us and we are trying to involve those persons also who have knowledge of computers. Along with it we are formulating a policy under which steps will be taken to manufacture the material necessary for the electronic industry in our own country. Subsequently, we shall take steps to manufacture components. We shall get this technology from wherever it is available or develop it in our own country. In this way we are trying to expand the electronics industry, which includes computers also. Keeping in view the views expressed by the hon. Member, we have presented an elaborate package policy statement. If in addition anything more is required, that will be provided.

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second supplementary question is that a feeling is gaining ground in our mind and I want to express that feeling before the hon. Minister and particularly before Shri Rajiv Gandhi that whereas by adopting

the computer system we have entered a new era—and we usually see that when we adopt a mechanisation policy or any other new idea, gradually that brings about a big change in our society and it influences our society—the question of increasing unemployment has also come before us, though I appreciate the steps taken for expanding industrialisation in the country under the new policy and I congratulate the hon. Minister and the hon. Prime Minister because people have welcomed these steps very much. It is true that this will help a lot in increasing the efficiency of the administration. But the question is that if the use of computers is started in every field and if we make excessive use of it, then in future a new problem may arise before us I would therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister, particularly from the hon. Prime Minister whether Government have given thought to this aspect so that in future the computer system may not have adverse effects on our society?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : So far as the first part of the question of the hon. Member is concerned, I agree with her but in regard to the second part, I would like to say with great respect that her apprehension is not correct that with the use of computers, the employment potential will be reduced. We feel that if we increase the use of computers in our life that will bring about efficiency, increase our output and we shall be able to do things in a better way. With your permission I would like to submit in one minute that with the use of tractors in farming, we are now getting three crops a year instead of the one that we were getting earlier, because now we sow seeds in time and harvest the crops in time. Similarly, by introducing computers, our irrigation facilities will increase, production in industries will increase and work in offices will be finished in time and will be done easily. Therefore, with the use of computers, our output will increase and not decrease, because by adopting new technology, the efficiency increases and does not decrease. Keeping in view all the aspects, our Government and our leader have taken steps in this direction.

MR. SPEAKER : By using tractors in farming, the wages will decrease. In our area instead of Rs. 60, Rs. 50 are being paid now.

SHRIMATI. PREMALABAI CHAVAN : Through you, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister if he has a list with him of the number of factories manufacturing computers in our country. It may also be explained what incentives are being given by the Government to these factories.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : So far as the list is concerned I shall hand over to her a complete and correct list. But we have taken far reaching decisions to manufacture computers on a very large scale. Last year also we took certain decisions which have been presented before the House. This year also we have taken certain decisions.

For the import of technology into our country we have reduced the customs duty, and customs duty on components has also been reduced. The upper limit also been lowered. Many more facilities have also been provided.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

I. T. D. C. Restaurants in Foreign Countries

*472 **SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH :** Will the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation be please to state :

(a) whether I T. D. C. intends to have chains of Restaurants in countries like France, Britain, U. S. A. and Gulf countries;

(b) if so, whether this will be profitable;

(c) whether market surveys have been carried out; and

(d) if so, by whom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION : (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT); (a) There is presently no proposal for ITDC establishing a chain of Restaurants in countries like France, USA and Gulf countries. ITDC has, however, entered into an agreement with 'Frontier of India Ltd' (FIL) in Oct. 1984 for providing consultancy and management services on a fee basis for the setting up of a speciality Indian Restaurant by FIL in London.

(b) and (c) No market survey has been conducted.

(d) Does not arise.

Report of Committee on Helicopter Corporation.

*474. **SHRI R. ANNANAMBI :**
SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Project Report on the setting-up of the setting up of a Helicopter Corporation has been received by Government from the Committee constituted for this purpose; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee has recommended formation of a Helicopter Corporation initially to meet the needs of the petroleum sector and, in due course, for meeting the needs of hilly terrains, relief operations, intra-city transport and tourist charters etc. after a detailed survey has been made of the demands on these accounts.

Incidence of Fatal Radiations in Indian Rare Earths Udyogmandal, Kerala

*475 **PROF. K. V. THOMAS :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :