

turing advanced composite components. The technology has been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation. It is proposed to establish a joint venture for productionising this technology in COMPROC.

(b) Offers have been received from public sector enterprises and private firms in this connection. These offers are under evaluation. DRDO has established basic infrastructural facilities and equipment for COMPROC. Technology packages for producing composite products are also available.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Mr. Speaker Sir, in reply to this question, the hon. Minister has stated about setting up of a joint venture. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to how much defence equipments would be manufactured in this joint Venture? What will be the estimated cost thereof? Does the Government propose it to set up in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : It is proposed to be set up in Hyderabad because this research unit comes under Hyderabad. Its Technology Development Centre would also be established. There is a proposal to productionise the technology here and because some decisions are yet to be taken, therefore, I have not said any concrete thing in reply to the first question.

[English]

Overtime in Government Departments:

*514. DR. SUDHIR ROY † :
SHRI MANIK SANYAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the Government's policy regarding overtime in Government Departments;

(b) how far the policy is being implemented by the Departments;

(c) whether Government Departments have stopped the practice of paying overtime to the employees to complete the job in time; and

(d) if not, the amount spent on such overtime, Department-wise during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). A Statement is given below :

Statement

(a) to (c). The Government have accepted the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission's Report that over time allowance may be discontinued. The modalities for implementing the decision are being worked out. Pending this, Ministries/Departments have been advised to arrange their work in offices in such a way as to finish it during the normal working hours and to evolve a new work culture. They have also been authorised to compensate for the unavoidable extra work beyond the prescribed working hours by payment of over time allowance under the existing orders on the basis of national pay admissible to the employees in the pre-revised scales of pay.

(d) The amount spent on over time department wise for the year 1985-86 which is the latest information available is contained in the "Brochure on Pay and Allowances of Central Government Employees for the year 1984-85 and 1985-86" brought out by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance copies of which have been placed in the Parliament Library for reference.

DR. SUDHIR ROY : Instead of giving the answer, the Minister has advised me to go to Parliament Library for research. This is very unfortunate. Any way, I want to say that according to BPE the overtime allowance should be stopped. But thermal power stations, coal mines, railways, transport give crores of rupees as overtime every year. According to BPE last year Rs. 133 crores had to be spent for payment of overtime allowance. Because of ban on recruitment, thousands of posts which are lying vacant because of death or retirement, are not filled up. If you really

want to stop overtime allowance, then why do you not recruit new hands ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The Pay Commission has recommended that overtime allowance should be discontinued. Government have accepted this recommendation. Modalities are being worked out. Pending the modalities being worked out, the Departments have been allowed to continue with old rates of overtime allowance based on national pre-revised scales of pay. We have held discussions with the staff side. They have raised certain points which are being considered. This cannot be directly linked with recruitment because in some jobs it is the continuity of the job which requires us to pay overtime and not that absence of another hand. Particularly in operative jobs it is the continuity of the performance of the job which requires up to pay overtime. Secondly, it is not correct to say that there is an absolute blanket ban on recruitment.

DR. SUDHIR ROY : I agreed that continuity of job requires payment of overtime allowance. But it is a fact that since there is a ban on recruitment, overtime allowance has to be paid. The number of registered unemployed as already reached three crores. If that is so, why does the Government not revise its policy and withdraw this ban on new recruitment ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : As I said earlier, Sir, there is no absolute blanket ban on recruitment. Against sanctioned posts, people can be recruited. The ban is only on creation of new posts. Even that has been relaxed in many cases. Besides may I submit with great humility that government jobs are not the only way to deal with the problem of unemployment; it has to be done by development of industries and promotion of self-employment opportunities. I once again say that there is no absolute blanket ban on recruitment.

DR. SUDHIR ROY : There is a ban, Sir.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Not an absolute blanket ban, I said.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, has not the time come to examine the effectiveness, the quantum of work and the quality of work that could be expected from

the government employees ? The Government must have examined the utility of continuing this new practice of having only five working days instead of six working days in a week. I have noticed that some of the State Governments have gone back to the earlier practice of six days. Will the Government now begin to assess the utility of this new practice of losing one day in every week and afterwards agreeing to pay overtime allowance either to all the Government servants or to certain sections of the employees ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the total number of working hours per week remains the same after we switched over to the five-day working week. The five-day week was introduced after carefully looking into the options available to the Government and after making a careful assessment of how a new work culture should be introduced. I think it is too early to pronounce that the five-day week is a failure or has not yielded results. On the contrary, we have in a very quick assessment made, found that the five-day week has, in fact, promoted a certain amount of efficiency among the staff.

As regards the overtime, I do not think it is directly related to the five day week or the six-day week. Even when we had the six-day week, large amounts were being paid as overtime allowance.

Financial Allocations to Pooyankutty Project

*519. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether financial allocation has been made to the State of Kerala for the Pooyankutty Hydro Electric Project;

(b) if so, the details of allocation made; and

(c) whether allocation was made after obtaining clearance to the project from the Ministry of Environment and Forests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : (a) and