

a realising cost estimate and time frame for project implementation. A final view on the economic viability of the project would be possible only after the revised DPR is available.

[*Translation*]

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have gone through the statement given by the hon. Minister. It makes it evident that the Central Government does not give much importance to the economic viability or the availability of raw material if the project proves to be profitable. It approves the project in order to win favour of the people, but failing to achieve it, they take away the project. A coach factory was to be established in Andhra Pradesh but later on it was cancelled. I would like to know about the measures being taken by the Central Government to set up projects in the areas where raw material is available and economic viability of the project is good.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: It is the foremost duty of a popular Government to keep the people satisfied. Our Government also tries to do the same. So far as the availability of raw-material is concerned, in order to make a refinery profitable, it is essential to see whether the products of the refinery are consumed in the same area. Petroleum products and diesel are in high demand in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Western parts of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. So it is essential that the refinery is established in Karnal. Pipe-line has already been laid up to Mathura and it can be further extended upto Karnal via Choksi for the supply of crude oil. The decision has been taken on the merits of the case.

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY: Action was taken in the year 1987 to implement the project and I would like to know the extent of cost escalation during the period 1984 to 1987. If the Government claims to stand for socialism, why did it give away the project to the Tatas.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: Socialism does not mean that they won't go in for joint ventures. As per my information, even in Russia, joint ventures are being established and there it is not causing any problem. Though the Government had originally taken a decision about it but due to the lack of adequate resources, it was tried in the joint sector, the project has not been transferred over to the Tatas. IOC and Tata Chemical Limited have equal shares in it. In fact, it was done to collect money through issue of shares to the public. The Government agreed for the joint venture. At first, the Government had decided to set up the refinery in the public sector but later on decided to have it in the joint sector. We have also got the detailed project report prepared. The Government have also decided take maximum assistance from the Government of Russia in setting up this refinery. The Government of Russia have offered some proposals on which the Government of India has been discussing with them, and a high-level technical team from India will be leaving for Moscow shortly. Our Government wants clarification on certain points and have also sought a detailed report about the project. Only then the Government of India would approve the project. In the mean time, the Government have acquired 2000 acres of land for the project and the work of soil investigation has been completed and above all, the permission of the department of Environment which is the most difficult job, has also been obtained. Besides, the State Government has been contacted to discuss with them about the infrastructure, roads water and power supply.

[*English*]

Amendment to Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867

354. **SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:**
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to amend the

Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which an amending bill is proposed to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (S. KRISHNA KUMAR):

(a) to (c). The Press and Registration of Books (Amendment Bill): 1988 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 5.12.1988. It might be appropriate for this House to discuss the same when it is referred to it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have gone through the Amendment Bill, 1988 which has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. It would be discussed later on. This Bill reflects the days of British rule whereas it should contain the element of Indian culture. Even the press of this country want that some or the other step should be taken by the Government in this regard. I have carefully gone through the whole Bill and found nothing of the sort. Still the Government can manage to improve the things and bring in it the element of Indian culture through an amendment. Only then effective measures can be taken on the lines of Indian culture. I would like to know the reaction of the Government in this regard.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Well, Sir, as my colleague has said, the Bill has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

It will definitely come in the Lok Sabha.

We shall certainly welcome consideration of any amendment which further improves things. It will depend on the merits of the amendment.

Management of Growth Centres In Backward Areas

*358. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the special task force on 'backward area development' of the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry has proposed for setting up a centralised authority for planning, promotion and management of growth centres in backward areas;

(b) if so, whether the task force has since submitted the plans etc. to Union Government; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). No such proposal has been received from the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Sir, I can understand that no proposal has been received by the Government from the Chamber. But will the Government take initiative and on its own set up a centralised authority as mentioned in the question?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, our Department has proposed a centralised authority to the Government. The Government is yet to take a decision on this.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Sir, may I know what steps have been taken by the Govern-