

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION
8256—57

Counter Agitation in Assam

*346. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a counter agitation has been launched in Assam;

(b) whether, as a result of this, many persons were killed;

(c) whether Government have ensured that arms are not being smuggled into Assam from across the border through the river route; and

(d) if so, what progress has been achieved in containing violence in the North-East region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) and (b). 'Demands Day' was observed on May 26, 1980 in different parts of Assam on the call given by the All Assam Minorities Students Union. Processions were taken out in the district of Gopalpara, Nowgong, Kamrup and Darrang on that day to submit memoranda to district officials. The supporters of All Assam Students Union and All Assam Gana Sangram Parishad made attempts to prevent the processionists from submitting their memoranda. Consequently, violent clashes ensured, as a result of which 51 persons lost their lives.

(c) Government has taken all possible steps to ensure that arms are not smuggled into Assam from across the border through river route.

(d) The situation in North-East region is under constant review.

Incentives for paper Industry

*352. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Industry Ministry has mooted a proposal for opening a soft loan window for the paper industry;

(b) if so, whether this proposal is being processed by the Union Finance Ministry at present;

(c) whether any final decision in this regard has been taken;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the lack of fresh investment forthcoming into paper industry is also evident;

(e) if so, what are the main reasons for this, a

(f) what other benefits and incentives are being considered by Government to be given to the paper industry for improvement of paper manufacturing in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI
CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (c). In April, 1979, the Ministry of Industry had recommended for consideration of the Industrial Development Bank of India that the Paper Industry may be included for financial under the Soft Loan Scheme. Industrial Development Bank of India have decided that the Soft Loan Scheme might continue in its present form for the time being and the position would be reviewed before the end of this year.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The Paper Industry has been registering a steady growth of capacity