

and if so, to what extent this has been done?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delay has been primarily due to:—

(i) difficulties experienced in procuring various items of equipment and material which had to conform to stringent specifications; and

(ii) difficulties encountered by the various manufacturers in the country in assimilating the know-how made available to them and in manufacturing the various components later.

(c) The Indian scientists working in this project can be said to have taken a significant step in achieving self-reliance as most of the key components for the reactor have been manufactured in India.

Losses in National Industrial Development Corporation

***569. SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Industrial Development Corporation Limited, an Engineering Consultancy Organisation in the Public Sector is running under losses for the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and what corrective measures have been proposed by the Ministry to recover from those losses and make it a profitable public sector; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to change the present top Management including Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the audited accounts,

the Corporation incurred losses of Rs. 43.55 lakhs in 1977-78 and Rs. 35.66 lakhs in 1978-79. The accounts for the year 1979-80 are under audit and loss is estimated to be Rs. 19.14 lakhs.

(b) The Corporation has been engaged in providing primarily technical consultancy services and losses are mainly attributable to assignments as anticipated not materialising. To recover from the present position, the Corporation has been trying to build up expertise in new areas, such as cement, textiles, paper and pulp etc. The Government are also exploring the possibility of utilisation of its services by other public sector undertakings not only under the Ministry of Industry but also other Ministries/Departments. The Board of Directors of the Corporation has also been strengthened to improve its working.

(c) No, Sir.

Criteria for Declaration of Scheduled Areas and Backward Areas

***570. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI:** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) which Ministry is responsible for classifying different areas, as scheduled areas, tribal areas, hilly areas, desert areas and backward areas;

(b) what are different treatments meted out to them according to the nature of classification;

(c) which are the areas sacrosanct to the Constitution; and

(d) what steps have been taken so far to develop those areas?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI N. D. TIWARI): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The scheduled areas and tribal areas, as specified in the Fifth and Sixth Schedule of the Constitution