

Resignation by Chairman and Chief Administrator of Dandakaranya Development Authority

*240. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the reported resignation by Shri C. Venkataramani from the post of Chairman and Chief Administrator of the Dandakaranya Development Authority;

(b) whether this is the third such resignation in the last two years; and

(c) whether Government have any positive proposal for improving the conditions of the refugees even after 20 years of the D.D.A.?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) It is not a fact that Shri C. Venkataramani resigned from the post of Chairman and Chief Administrator.

(b) There have been no resignations in the last two years by any Chairman and/or Chief Administrator.

(c) The settlers in the Dandakaranya Project are mostly agriculturists. A number of steps have been taken during the last 20 years and are being taken even now to improve their conditions. These include land reclamation, soil conservation, agricultural extension services, provision of inputs like bullocks, seeds and fertilizers, provision of roads, schools, hospitals housing accommodation etc. Besides a number of irrigation projects have been also been taken up.

Rumania's participation in India's Power expansion programme

*241. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rumania is very keen in participating, in India's power expansion programme;

(b) whether any Rumania's delegation recently visited India in this regard and assured that Rumania could assist India with supplies of power generation equipment; and

(c) if so, whether any agreement has also been arrived in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) and (b). Yes Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

New Coal Mines in Birbhum District of West Bengal

*242. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to open the new coal mines in Birbhum District of West Bengal; and

(b) names of those places where coal has been found?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHADHURI): (a) Geological exploration is going on in Birbhum District. Opening of new mines would depend on the results obtained from this exploration in about two years time.

(b) Two known coal deposits are available in Birbhum district adjoining Raniganj Coalfield in the area

west of Andal to Sainthia railway line. The easier coal deposit close to the surface has already been worked earlier by different private collieries. Only one underground mine is still being worked. A small quarry has been recently discontinued. The names of old mines are Kankortola, Raza, Sultanpur, Aurgang, Ganga-ramchak etc.

Petitions on Mass Rape by Police Officials

*243. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DAN-DAVATE: Will the Ministry of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has received memorandum and petitions from the individuals and institutions on the mass rape by police officials;

(b) if so, the steps taken to punish the guilty; and

(c) whether any permanent solution has been found to treat the women prisoners in the police custody with respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-WANA): (a) The Prime Minister has received memorandum and petitions from the individuals and institutions on specific allegations of rape against police officials

(b) The specific cases of alleged rape brought to the notice of the Prime Minister have been referred to State Government concerned for enquiry or investigation and appropriate departmental/legal action.

(c) In view of frequent allegations about misbehaviour with women arrested or kept for interrogation by

the police, fresh instructions have been issued on 14-3-80 by this Ministry to all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for strict compliance of the procedure laid down in the Cr. P. C. and in the State Police Manuals and for issuing further supplementary instructions to ensure that women are treated with respect and consideration by all the ranks of the police.

News Item "A Cry from the Jungle of Injustice Brutal Attack on Adivasis"

*244. SHRI SATISH PRASAD SINGH;

SHRI CHANDRA DEO PRASAD VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "A cry from the jungle of injustice brutal attack on Adivasis" appearing in the Blitz weekly of May 31, 1980; which gives the pathetic plight of Adivasis; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take to save the life and property of Adivasis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-WANA): (a) Yes, Sir, The letter to the Editor appearing in Blitz of May 31st written by Smt. Sushila D'Suza has been seen and the Government of Maharashtra have conducted an enquiry regarding the reported incident.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra have made enquiry by a Police Officer of the rank of Deputy Inspector General of Police. Criminal cases have been registered and the investigations are in progress.