

scheduled tribes were never overlooked and shall not be overlooked under the Prime-Ministership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. In this case, no justifiable claim has been overlooked. We are constantly at watch. In the matter of placement of officers in the selection list, we have made it clear that in the matter of reviewing the case of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe persons, more lenient view has to be taken. That has been done. No injustice has taken place. I can assure the hon. Member it has been done in this case also.

### **Taking over of Geovanola Binny Ltd., Cochin**

\*862. SHRI A. A. RAHIM:

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SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of take-over of the Geovanola Binny Limited, Cochin was under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been completed in this regard under IDR Act;

(c) if so, what is the result thereof and when the company is likely to be taken over;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Company is closed for the past two years and assets are being siphoned out to defraud the Public Financial Institutions including Canara Bank which have different investments in the Company worth about three to four crores of rupees; and

(e) if so, what expeditious action is being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee appointed under Section 15 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, has

since completed its investigation and submitted a report.

(c) No follow-up action could be taken on the Report of the Committee as it was brought to the notice of Government that some of the creditors of the company has initiated liquidation proceedings in the High Court of Kerala for realisation of their dues.

(d) The Company is under lock-out from 5th March, 1979 till date.

(e) Further action will be taken in consultation with the Government of Kerala.

SHRI A. A. RAHIM: Will the hon. Minister inform the House of at least some important facts about the investigation concerning the assets and debts and about the present condition of the machinery?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: In the interest of take over of the company and management of the company the proceedings of the report should not be made public.

SHRI A. A. RAHIM: This being one of the best machine-tool shops with sophisticated machinery in the country and also having very high employment potential, may I know whether Government will expedite measures to take it over so that the machinery can be saved from ruin, so that we can also save the large number of families who are involved?

SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA: The hon. Member has raised a very important issue. In view of the due importance of these issues, we have already taken up the matter with the Government of Kerala. We are only expecting a reply from them for taking further action in the matter.

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL: There is an apparent contradiction in the points at (c) and (e), but I am not going to deal with that. I would only like to know when the report was received, what consultations the hon. Minister is having with the Government of Kerala, and how long it will take to take further action on that.

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** The report was submitted in August, 1979 and we took up the matter with the Kerala Government thereafter. No reply has been received from them so far and we will follow up the matter with them.

### Setting up of a Cement Plant in Orissa

\*863. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up a cement plant in Orissa;

(b) whether any plan therefor was framed by the previous Government in the three years' rule; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA):** (a) Apart from two existing cement plants in Orissa, two letters of intent have already been granted for setting up new cement plants in favour of Messrs Hindustan Steel Limited and Messrs Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa at Rourkela and Kutra-Kringsera respectively. Proposal for enhancement of capacity of the proposed plant of Messrs Hindustan Steel Limited is also under process.

(b) No plan was exclusively framed for development of Cement Industry in Orissa.

(c) Does not arise.

**SHRI ARJUN SETHI:** I understand from the reply given by the hon. Minister that two Letters of Intent have been issued to establish new cement plants in Orissa. In this context, I would like to know the production capacity of these two new plants, by what time they will go into production and if that will meet the requirements of the State.

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** The initial licensed capacity for Hindustan

Steel Ltd., Rourkela was 11.55 lakh tonnes, but as I have mentioned in my main reply, they have now applied for enhancement of their licensed capacity to 21.00 lakh tonnes. As far as the second plant is concerned, the licensed capacity is 65,000 tonnes. And I can assure the hon. Member that this will definitely improve the supply position of cement in the State.

**SHRI ARJUN SETHI:** What will be the total employment potential that will generate after the two new cement plants in Orissa go into production? Further, what will be the estimated cost of these two cement plants which are likely to be commissioned?

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** I require a notice for this. I shall reply to this later.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Yes, this is a question of statistics; nothing more, this can be replied later.

**SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA:** In view of the acute shortage of cement in the country, may I know as to what is the thinking of the Ministry with regard to setting up of mini-cement plants in the country?

**MR. SPEAKER:** The main question concerns only the setting up of new plants in Orissa.

**SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA:** This is an important question connected with the main question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** No.

**SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:** The hon. Minister has said that two Letters of Intent have been issued and the proposal for enhancement of capacity of the proposed plant by Hindustan Steel Ltd. is under consideration. I would like to know when they are going to start the work actually and how much time they will take to complete these projects.

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** The first Letter of Intent was issued on