

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The dispute, inter-alia, related to the scope for further extension of mechanisation in offices and branches of the Grindlays Bank Ltd. in India and has been referred to a National Industrial Tribunal in February, 1980 whose award is awaited.

Difficulties Faced by the North-Eastern Region Engineering Units

*636. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Engineering Units in the North-Eastern region are experiencing great difficulties and had been forced to cut their production following the non-availability of the required steel materials from the integrated steel plants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) and (b). There has been shortfall in the production of saleable steel by the integrated steel plants. The Engineering Units in the North Eastern region have been affected by this general shortage, as also by the transport problems peculiar to the region. Steps to augment the availability of required materials in the North Eastern region have been taken and supplies during the year 1981-82 have been planned on an enhanced scale.

Review of recruitment/promotion rules re. scheduled castes and scheduled Tribe in Government Service

*637. SHRI BHEEKHABAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the recruitment/promotion rules relating to representation of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe in Government service and public undertakings need a comprehensive review in view of huge shortfalls and backlogs in Government employment;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to *suo moto* undertake review of rules;

(c) whether Government intend to convene a meeting of Members of Parliament belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). The shortfall in representation in Govt. employment is mainly in the 'A' and 'B' groups for Scheduled Castes and by and large in all the groups for Scheduled Tribes. This shortfall is not to be related to any deficiency in the recruitment/promotion rules and as such, no comprehensive review of rules is indicated at present.

(c) and (d). Do not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

Launching of Karnataka Blades Ltd.

*638. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a private Firm Karnataka Blades Ltd. has been jointly launched by the Karnataka Industrial Development Corporation and Asian Cables;

(b) if so, the details regarding its production capacity; and

(c) when it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

1. A letter of intent was issued to the Karnataka State Industrial Investment and Development Corporation