

Setting up of industries in backward areas of Kanya Kumari district

*323. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) what concrete steps Government have taken for establishing industries in the backward areas of Kanya Kumari District both in the public sector and in the private sector; and

(b) whether the above mentioned industrially backward area is proposed to be given special consideration and encouragement for establishing industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) and (b). In order to facilitate its industrial development, Kanya Kumari district has already been declared eligible for concessional finance from Central financial institutions. Under the Centrally sponsored D.I.C. programme an action plan for industrial development of the district has also been drawn up whose follow up and further project promotion in this district, as in case of other districts, is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. At present the Central Government has no other proposal under its consideration for giving special encouragement for establishing of industries in this district.

Preservation of birds for ecological balance

*324. SHRI BHIKHU RAM JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the dwindling population of birds and its adverse impact on the environmental quality of the country;

(b) whether some sort of bird counting is proposed to be initiated by Government; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to preserve and promote the population of birds for happy ecological balance?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Government are aware of the normal fluctuations in bird populations in different habitats. However, the population of certain species of birds have shown some decrease.

(b) The Bombay Natural History Society is presently undertaking a Five Year Project on bird populations and relative abundance of species at two sanctuaries.

(c) Rare and endangered species of birds and other animals are protected under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Decontrol or Dual price Mechanism of Cement

*325. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the financial experts have recommended to Government either to decontrol cement or introduce dual price mechanism to facilitate the much needed growth of the industry by modernisation and expansion; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) No such recommendation has been received by the Government.

(b) Does not arise.