

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Government have seen press reports that United States of America has recently announced a five year plan to strengthen its Naval Forces in the Indian Ocean.

(b) The security environment of India is kept under constant review and appropriate steps are taken for maintaining adequate defence preparedness at all times.

(c) We are increasingly evolving our own concepts organisationally and operationally as suited to our own specific requirements.

Licences for Export Oriented Units

*736. **SHRI B. V. DESAI:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry have set up a Board to clear licences for setting up of 100 exports oriented units in the country;

(b) if so, who are its members;

(c) what will be its main functions; and

(d) how many applications have so far been received and by what time they will be cleared?

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

(b) and (c). This information was notified in Part II—Section 3 Sub-section (ii) of the Gazette of India (Extraordinary) dated 13-1-1981.

(d) Till 31-3-1981, 42 applications have been received and the time limit to clear these cases is 60 days for MRTP cases and 30 days for Non-MRTP cases.

Enquiry against BHEL's Officers

*737. **SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI enquiry is pending against Chief (Finance) and General Manager (Personnel) of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited in connection with irregularities committed by these two officers and preliminary enquiries were lodged against them by CBI vide FIR Nos. 16 & 17; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the investigations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) and (b). The Delhi Branch of Central Bureau of Investigation registered two cases for preliminary enquiries against Shri K. N. Khanna, Chief (Finance) and Shri G. Saran, General Manager (Personnel) of Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) in connection with the alleged misuse of their official position to get their relatives appointed in BHEL and also to get them undue benefits. The enquiry against Shri K. N. Khanna has been completed and the matter closed, since the CBI after investigating into the matter came to the conclusion that there was no misuse of official position by Shri Khanna. The enquiry against Shri Saran has not yet been completed by the CBI.

Mini Cement Plants

*738. **SHRI RAJESH PILOT:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present condition of cement production and distribution as compared to last year;

(b) what steps are being taken to encourage large scale development of mini Plants; and