

Central Schemes for Santhal Pargana Area

*447. SHRI R. N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the simmering tension in the Santhal Pargana of Bihar due to Government's failure to eradicate poverty and extend basic postal and transport amenities in these areas; and

(b) if so, corrective steps proposed under various centrally aided and operated projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR):

(a) Government are aware of the poor economic condition of people in the Santhal Pargana district of Bihar on account of indigence and remoteness of area.

(b) Part of the district is covered by tribal sub-Plan schemes and the entire district by the integrated rural development programme, national rural employment programme and other State Plan schemes. These aim at not only raising the economic condition of the people but also improving the infrastructure like postal, transport, communication facilities.

Import of Heavy Water

*448. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made assessment regarding the projected quantities of heavy water under atomic energy programme, that is likely to be imported during the Sixth Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether it is a fact that our country depends entirely on imported heavy water;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the names of the countries with whom Government have signed agreements for the import of heavy water for this period?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is an existing contract with U.S.S.R. for import of 256 Metric Tonnes of heavy water. 125 Metric Tonnes out of this quantity remains to be supplied.

Visit of Home Minister to Baroda after Riots

*449. SHRI RAMPRASAD AHIR-WAR:

SHRI SURAJ BHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons of his visit to Baroda after the riots there in last December;

(b) his observations regarding causes of frequent riots there and the advice given by him to the Gujarat Government in this regard; and

(c) is he aware of Press reports that certain elements involved in these riots enjoy political patronage; if so, what is his reaction?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The visit has made in order to make an on the spot study of the situation and convey sympathies to the people who suffered in the incidents.