

(b) The index for the month of February 1973 showed a decline of 3.8 per cent over February 1972 (and not 2.8 per cent)

(c) Data on the index of industrial production are available for the first two months of 1973 and they indicate a rise of 2.4 per cent in January 1973 and a decline of 3.8 per cent in February 1973 as compared to the corresponding months in 1972; it may be added that these are preliminary figures, subject to correction by the CSO, as more returns come in

(d) Among the main factors that have affected industrial production during the period are continued power shortage; shortage of raw materials for certain industries, such as vanaspathi and textile weaving; and coal and wagon shortages, which have affected cement and steel industries. A number of steps have been taken to relieve the power shortage including sanctions for import of diesel generator sets. Special allocations for import of raw materials are being arranged. Steps are also being taken to improve availability and transport of coal. Steps have been taken for permitting fuller utilisation of capacity and diversification of production, and measures are also under way for speeding clearances for improving production and investment.

**Closure of Dyeing, Sizing and Processing Units for want of Yarn in West Bengal**

\*255. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that at least 25 dyeing and 12 sizing and processing units have been closed down in West Bengal due to want of yarn;

(b) whether Government are supplying yarn to the weavers;

(c) whether Government is aware about the facts that thousands of weavers are starving due to non-availability of yarn; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to save the weavers from starvation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The supply of yarn to weavers in West Bengal is being made by the Government of West Bengal out of bulk allotments of yarn made to that Government by the Textile Commissioner

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Arrest of Police Personnel in Delhi in connection with theft and corrupt practices**

\*256 SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of police personnel arrested for involvement in theft and corrupt practices in Delhi during the months of April, May and June, 1970; and

(b) the action taken by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Five.

(b) During the period from April to June, 1973, one Sub-Inspector and three Constables were arrested for accepting illegal gratification, and one Constable was arrested for taking away 9-1/2 tolas of gold and a gold chain from a Goldsmith. Cases have been registered against all of them.