

(VIDHI AUR NYAYA MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No Sir ; in the absence of any specific complaint, it would not be possible to make any inquiry merely on the basis of a report which appeared in a newspaper.

Election Petitions Filed in West Bengal

912. SHRI SUBODH HANSDA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE (VIDHI AUR NYAYA MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Election Petitions have been filed from West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the number of such petitions ; and

(c) whether Government have decided all these petitions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (VIDHI AUR NYAYA MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI) (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Thirteen in all ; four challenging the elections to the Lok Sabha and nine challenging the elections to the State Legislative Assembly held in March, 1971.

(c) The question of the Government deciding these petitions does not arise as the forum for trial thereof is the High Court

Manufacture of Industrial Goods with Foreign Collaboration

913. SHRI SUBODH HANSDA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (AUDYOGIK VIKAS MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up Industrial units in private or public sector for the manufacture of Industrial goods with foreign collaboration for export only ; and

(b) whether such collaborators have been invited and whether any response has come from any country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (AUDYOGIK VIKAS MANTRA-

LAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). Government are constantly reviewing the need for setting up additional capacities, if necessary, with foreign collaboration, required for stepping up export of Indian products. Proposals for foreign collaboration having an export bias are given favourable consideration. A few such proposals have already been approved by the Government while some others are under consideration.

Manufacture of Small Car in Public Sector

914. SHRI SUBODH HANSDA : SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (AUDYOGIK VIKAS MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether talks have been completed with foreign firms for the manufacture of small car in public sector ;

(b) the names of countries which have send models ; and

(c) what are their prices and whether any of them have been accepted for manufacture in this country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (AUDYOGIK VIKAS MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI) (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Discussions are in progress with four foreign firms whose offers of collaboration for the manufacture of passenger cars in the public sector were *prima facie* found suitable for further consideration.

(b) The four foreign firms in the field who have sent their models for tests in India are :

(i) M/s. Ford Products Company, Australia.

(ii) M/s. Fiat S.P.A., Italy.

(iii) M/s. Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault, France.

(iv) M/s. Nissam Motor Co. Ltd., Japan.

(c) No final decision has yet been taken about the model or the foreign collaboration. It is not possible at this stage to indicate any figures of prices.