

Rayalaseema area in Andhra Pradesh, it is not correct to say that 5% of the limestone deposits in the country are located in this area. There are at present six cement plants in Andhra Pradesh for a total capacity of 20.69 lakh tonnes per annum. One of them namely M/s. Pan-
yam Cement & Mineral Industries Ltd. with a capacity of 5.31 lakh tonnes per annum is situated in Kurnool District.

13 Letters of intent/industrial licences have been granted to various parties including large houses for setting up cement plants in Andhra Pradesh for a total capacity of 47.96 lakh tonnes per annum, out of which 8.00 lakh tonnes per annum would be set up in Cuddapah District by Cement Corporation of India and Texmaco Ltd.

Besides the above, applications for setting up of cement plants in Andhra Pradesh for a total capacity of 37.60 lakh tonnes have also been received and are under process, out of which 13 lakh tonnes capacity is for location in Cuddapah and Kurnool Districts.

According to the present policy Cement Industry is open to large houses.

Annual consumption of the State is about 15.00 lakh tonnes. The State is therefore surplus in production of cement and is also located in the South Zone which is surplus.

Allowing Central Government Employees to Appear in Competitive Examinations

*436. SHRI RANJIT SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Government employees are allowed to appear for State Civil Services or the All India Administrative Services competitive examinations;

(b) whether it is a fact that similar privileges is not given to the Central Government employees; and

(c) whether the Central Government are contemplating to give this privileges to the Central Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL):

(a) to (c). All persons including government employees are eligible to sit for competitive examinations for all-India and Central Services if they fulfil conditions of eligibility in respect of age, educational qualifications etc. as laid down in the Examination Rules from time to time.

As regards eligibility of government employees to sit for the examinations for the State Civil Services, information is being collected.

Administrative Set up for Lakshdweep

*437. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total population of Union territory of Lakshdweep up till now;

(b) whether Union Government are considering to change the present pattern of Administration in Lakshdweep?

(c) whether the people of lakshdweep have been demanding the Delhi type of Administration there;

(d) if so, whether Government are considering this question; and

(e) if not, the main reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): (a) The population of Lakshdweep according to 1971 Census was 31810 and the projected population for 1978 is 38040.

(b) and (c). No Sir.

(d) Do not arise.

(e) Government do not consider that the Delhi type of administration would be suitable for these islands.

Alleged Mismanagement and Corruption in N.I.D.C.

*438. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-report appearing in the Financial Express dated the 21st November, 1978 under the caption "Rs. 43 lakh Deficit for NIDC."

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to the various observations of serious nature made therein and action taken/proposed to be taken.

(c) whether the National Industrial Development Corporation employees Union have also submitted to the Government memorandum/letter highlighting gross mismanagement, corruption and irregularities; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI-MATI ABHA MAITI) : (a) and (b) . Yes, Sir, The working of N.I.D.C. for the financial year ending 1978, resulted in a deficit of Rs. 43.54 lakhs as against surplus of Rs. 6.57 lakhs for the previous year. The Corporation has been experiencing some financial difficulties on account of outstandings against clients amounting to Rs. 73.31 lakhs as on 31-10-78. This was reviewed by the Board of Directors on 18-11-78 to expedite the recovery of outstandings due from their clients. A proposal to undertake an independent assessment of the financial affairs of the Corporation has been taken up with the N.I.D.C.

Information regarding the financial difficulties of NIDC was also laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 6-12-78 and 13-12-78 in reply to Unstarred Questions Nos. 2464 and 3340.

(c) and (d) . Some representations letters have been received from the employees union. These are engaging the attention of the Government.

Setting up of a Cement Plant in Orissa

*440. SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state,

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a cement plant in Orissa in the public sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of the existing cement plant at Bargarh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI-MATI ABHA MAITI) : (a) and (b) . The Directorate General of Technical Development have registered a proposal of Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa Ltd. for setting up of a mini cement plant with a capacity of 0.33 lakh tonnes at Kringsera, Distt. Sundergarh (Orissa).

(c) The Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa Ltd. have recently submitted a proposal for expansion of their existing unit at Bargarh from 3.96 lakh tonnes to 5.26 lakh tonnes per annum. This is under consideration.

Rural Electrification Schemes in Maharashtra

*441. SHRI ANNASAHEB GOT-KHINDE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rural electrification schemes of Maharashtra sent to Government for approval during 1978-79; and

(b) the schemes approved, those under consideration and the estimated cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) 18 schemes pending as on 31-3-1978 and 107 new schemes were received by the Rural Electrification Corporation for the current year so far.

(b) 34 schemes for a total loan assistance of Rs. 8.22 crores have been approved by the Corporation.

5 schemes have since been withdrawn by the Board. The remaining 86 schemes are being processed.

Prosecution of Boeing Aircraft Consultants in India under F.E.R.A.

*442. SHRI A. C. GEORGE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government intend to prosecute the Boeing Aircraft Company's Consultants in India under FERA for depositing their commissions abroad ;

(b) who are the said consultants and what are the Amounts involved;

(c) whether the said Company has disclosed its deals regarding the 3 Boeing 737s purchased after 1975 and the names of the persons who received its pay-offs in regard thereto ;

(d) if so, details of these disclosures; and

(e) if not, what steps have Government taken to obtain the said information soon ?