

(d) whether it is also a fact that Soviet Russia went back from its promise; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to set up the factory soon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) to (c). Government originally decided to set up two plants, one Precision Instruments Project at Kota (Rajasthan) and the other Mechanical Instruments Plant at Palghat (Kerala) with Soviet assistance. The Government of Kerala acquired 588.22 acres of land and made it available to the Instrumentation Limited to set up a factory at Palghat. Arrangements were also made by the State Government to provide water and electricity connections. A Skeleton cell was established in early 1967 to develop the land at Palghat. The total expenditure incurred on this Plant before the decision for its postponement was taken, is Rs. 35.14 lakhs.

A review of the implementation of the Palghat Project was undertaken by the June 1967 when it was found that with reduced investment in process industries due to the resources position and slackening of demand, large capacity at the Kota Plant and Palghat Plant would remain surplus. Further, the Palghat range of instruments are complementary to the Kota factory products which cannot be marketed without the former. As the demand was shrinking to about a fourth of the estimated value and the need for ensuring the economic viability of the Kota Unit which had already commenced commercial production had become urgent, it was decided to postpone the implementation of the Palghat project and base the Palghat range of instruments of manufacture at the Kota Plant during the Fourth Plan period. This would enable the Company to meet the immediate requirements of Bokaro Steel and Thermal Power Plants.

The whole position with regard to the setting up of the Mechanical Instruments Plant at Palghat would be reviewed further towards the end of the Fourth Plan period after watching the trend of demand and the growth of user industries, etc.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Free Legal Aid to the Poor

*596. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to provide legal aid to the litigants who are unable to afford and thus fail to get justice; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No scheme for the provision of legal aid by government to litigants who are unable to afford it is at present under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Monopoly in Industrial Sector

*597. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether, while addressing the Indian Merchants Chamber in Bombay on October 5, 1970, he said that Government was firm on "dismantling feudal family units in the industrial sector" to widen the base of economic development;

(b) if so, how do Government propose to do that; and

(c) the results of the steps taken so far in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) to (c). While speaking to the Indian Merchants Chamber in Bombay the Minister of Industrial Development and Internal Trade had reiterated Government's policy of preventing concentration of economic power and said