

**Enquiry into alleged Attempt to murder  
Shri Jyoti Basu**

\*773. SHRI GANESH GHOSH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had appointed any Enquiry Commission to enquire into the alleged attempt to murder Shri Jyoti Basu, former Deputy Chief Minister of West Bengal and, if so, the details thereof ;

(b) whether the Enquiry Commission has since submitted its report ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir. The case is being investigated according to law.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Block Closure of Cotton Mills**

\*774. SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased state :

(a) whether the Committee of the Mill-owners' Association, Bombay, has urged Government for a block closure of mills as the only solution to the prevailing Cotton situation and also suggested another 15 days closure some time in next April as a follow-up measure ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's attitude thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) Block closure of mills was suggested as only one of the alternatives.

(b) Attention in this regard is invited to the statement laid on the Table of the House on 8th December, 1970.

**Attempt by the Birlas to capture  
Engineering Promotion  
Council**

\*775. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the attempt made by the House of Birla to capture the Engineering Export Promotion Council ;

(b) whether they have captured 8 out of a total of 33 seats of this Council ;

(c) whether they are trying to get their nominees appointed as Chairman and Secretary of the Council ; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken to prevent the Engineering Promotion Council and other Councils being captured by the Birlas and other monopolists ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) So far as the Government is aware, there has been no attempt by the Birla Group of Industries to capture the Engineering Export Promotion Council.

(b) Out of 32 elective seats on the Working Committee of the Council, the elections of which have been concluded, only five have gone to persons representing firms belonging to Birla Group. Four of them have been elected uncontested.

(c) The Chairman is elected by the Members of the Working Committee from amongst themselves. Neither of the two contestants, who are in the field, belong to Birla Group of Industries Secretary is a non-elective post. There is no proposal to replace the present Secretary.

(d) Does not arise.

**Wagon Deal with East European  
Countries**

\*776. SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has concluded agreements with some East European countries for the supply of Railway Wagons ;