

Government to increase the production of granite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, decision to this effect has yet been taken.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Requirements of the industry for achieving faster growth have been identified and brought to the notice of the State Governments for suitable reorientation of their policies.

### Heritage Tourism

\*300. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have urged the Union Government to adopt some places in their States to boost heritage tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The Central Government has not received any proposals from the State Governments to boost heritage tourism. However, the Department of Tourism has a scheme to classify old havelis, palaces, castles, forts, residences of any size built prior to 1950 under the heritage hotel category. Under this scheme, 19 projects have been classified.

### Employment Generation

\*321. SHRI RATILAL VARMA:  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL  
KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the employment generated in the organised sector during the last three years; and

(b) the number of jobs expected to be generated in the organised sector during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCE (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Employment in the organised sector, which was 25.71 million in March, 1988, increased to 26.82 million in March, 1991.

(b) Estimates of jobs expected to be generated specifically in the organised sector in the current financial year have not been made.

### Transit Facilities Through Bangladesh

\*322. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS:  
SHRI SUDARSAN  
RAYCHAUDHURI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken up/propose to take up with Bangladesh the issue of rail link and water transport between North-Eastern States and Calcutta through Bangladesh territory;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) We have been requesting the Government of Bangladesh, ever since the

liberalisation of that country in 1971, to grant transit facilities for our railway traffic across the Bangladesh railway system. We already have an Inland Waterways Protocol with Bangladesh, linking Calcutta with two points in Assam. However, since this arrangement leaves Meghalaya and Tripura - two of our least developed and most isolated states - untouched, we have also approached Bangladesh for a suitable expansion of transit facilities. However, Bangladesh authorities have indicated to us that the matter has been receiving their consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Gas Tragedies**

\*323. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA  
HANDIQUE:  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The number of tragedies due to bursting of gas cylinders and leakage of ammonia gas during the last 12 months industrial, unit-wise;

(b) whether the tragedies have been investigated;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(d) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) 10 people died in an ammonia gas leakage incident at the Panipat Plant of the National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) on 26.8.92. There is no other reported incident of leakage of ammonia gas or leakage of LPG from cylinders in an industrial unit during the last 12 months.

(b) to (d). An enquiry committee, headed by an outside expert, was constituted by the NFL to go into the causes of the accident, fixation of responsibility, if any, review of safety procedures followed in the unit, and to recommend remedial measures. In its report, the enquiry committee has held that the accident was on account of failure of a component of the suction valve of Ammonia Pump. Since the personnel directly concerned including the officer who had issued the safety permit authorising the work also perished in the accident, the enquiry committee has observed that fixing of responsibility is not possible. The committee has suggested a number of short-term and long-term measures for avoiding such mishaps.

The report of the enquiry committee has been accepted by the Board of NFL on 30.10.1992 and a number of suggested measures have already been implemented.

### **Production of Automobiles**

\*324. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:  
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of two wheelers and four wheelers has declined during April-September, 1992 vis-a-vis their production during April-September, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for decline in production and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to help the automobile industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The