

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) It has been decided to take up the manufacture of Lambretta scooters in a unit in the Joint Sector in which the Government of India will hold 51% shares.

(b) The unit will be located at Lucknow in U.P. The entire manufacturing facilities of M/s. Innocenti, Milano, Italy for the manufacture of Lambretta two wheeled scooters along with drawings, designs, blue prints, etc are proposed to be purchased for the purpose.

(c) It is expected that the construction of the factory will start within 6 months of the signing of the agreement with the Italian firm and production of scooters will commence after about 1½ years thereafter.

(d) The terms of agreement with the Italian firm are in the final stage of negotiations.

(e) The unit will have a capacity of 1,00,000 scooters per annum. It will produce the latest models of Lambretta scooters which the Italian firm had been producing till they stopped production last year. As such they will compare favourably in quality with the scooters at present manufactured in the country. The price of the scooter to be manufactured in the joint sector is also expected to be relatively lower than the prices of the existing models of scooters under production in the country.

Proposal for expansion of Range of Radio Station, Jaipur

266. SHIRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to expand the range and power of Radio Station, Jaipur (Rajasthan) ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Indo-Ceylon Joint Industrial ventures

267. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether experts from India are conducting feasibility studies in Ceylon on the proposed joint industrial ventures to be undertaken by the two countries ;

(b) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be completed ; and

(c) the fields for the joint ventures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) to (c). During the course of bilateral talks between India and Ceylon held in September and November, 1971, the following fields of industries were identified for investigation and follow-up action with a view to promote industrial collaboration between the two countries :—

(i) Graphite based industry.

(ii) Rubber goods, including tyres and tubes.

(iii) Mica industry.

(iv) Glass (glass sheet and ophthalmic glass) to be based on silica sand available in large quantities in Ceylon.

(v) Refractories.

(vi) Spares-electrical and auto spares for buses and chasis.

Consultants from India have already completed studies in regard to these industries and feasibility reports on items (i) to (iii) are expected by the end of March, 1972 and those on items (iv) to (v) by middle of May, 1972. It has been agreed that for the present it is not necessary to take up any feasibility study in regard to item No. (vi).

Opening of a Post Office in District Satna, Madhya Pradesh

268. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Posts and Telegraphs Department have received any request for opening of a Post Office in District Satna of Madhya Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government ?