

luments or Rs. 30,000/- whichever is less. Ex-servicemen in receipt of pension are also entitled to relief on pension granted by the Government from time to time.

(4) The other benefits available to ex-servicemen are: reservation in employment, priorities/preferences for employment, concessions in age and educational qualifications for appointment to Group 'C' and 'D' posts, exemption from payment of examination/application fees for recruitment to Class III and Class II (Non-gazetted) posts advertised by Union Public Service Commission and Staff Selection Commission, assistance for self-employment, medical and canteen facilities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). With a view to providing relief to the pensioners for rising cost of living, the Third Pay Commission had recommended that pensioners be granted relief equal to 5 per cent of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 5/- and a maximum of Rs. 25/- per month as and when there is a 16 point increase in the 12-monthly average of the price index. The Government accordingly granted 8 instalments of relief to the pensioners from time to time. The last instalment was sanctioned with effect from 1st December, 1978. The total relief admissible at present is 40 per cent of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 40/- and a maximum of Rs. 200/- p.m. (In the case of those who are in receipt of the revised rates of pension consequent upon the merger of a portion of dearness allowance with pay for retirement benefits, the relief admissible at present, however, is 20 per cent of pension subject to a minimum of Rs. 20/- and a maximum of Rs. 100/- per month).

One more instalment of relief on pension has become due with effect from 1st November, 1979 and orders in this regard would be issued shortly.

Pensioners who retired prior to 1st January, 1978 are also entitled to an ad-hoc relief ranging from Rs. 15/- to Rs. 35/- p.m., in addition to the 8 instalments of relief mentioned above.

#### Naval Ordnance Factory in Kerala

157. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the request made by the Chief Minister of Kerala for the establishment of a Naval Ordnance Factory in Kerala; and

(b) if so, reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) and (b). In response to the request received in October, 1977 from the Chief Minister of Kerala, he was informed that there were no plans to set up any new Defence Production Units and that the claims of Kerala State would receive full consideration while considering any future proposals.

#### Taking over of closed industrial plants factory of Panchla

158. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH,  
SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for taking over of the closed industrial plants factory of Panchla, in the district of Howrah, West Bengal;

(b) whether Government have taken any decision on the proposal; and

(c) what is the latest position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) to (c).—Representations have been received.

mainly about reopening of the unit which has been under lock-out since December, 1974. In November, 1977, the Government of West Bengal wrote to this Ministry suggesting an investigation under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, into the affairs of Messrs Industrial Plants Limited, Howrah. The State Government were requested in January, 1978, to advise as to whether they would be prepared to assume financial and managerial responsibilities for running the undertaking. The State Government have recently replied that various alternatives for the revival of this unit are still under their consideration.

#### Atrocities in North Kamrup, Assam

159. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that serious atrocities have been committed in the North Kamrup (Assam) villages during the second week of January, 1980 by the men of Indian Army and C.R.P.;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the commanding officer belonging to a particular linguistic community directed the operations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). Allegations have been made that some army personnel committed atrocities in the North-Kamrup villages, and according to State Government, 11 cases are under investigation. Separately, army authorities made their own enquiries and found the allegations baseless.

There are no such allegations against C.R.P. personnel.

Our armed forces are above all lingual and communal feelings and act in an objective manner.

#### News-item captioned "Soviet Nuclear Weapons in Asia alleged"

160. SHRI SHIV KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn towards a news-item appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated 21st February, 1980 under the caption "Soviet nuclear weapons in Asia alleged";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government of India to keep the Zone free from super powers' conflicts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government have no authentic information.

#### योजना बनाने की गति धीमी करने के लिए अनवरत योजना का आरंभ

161. श्रीमती कृष्णा साहू : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या जनता सरकार ने अनवरत योजना आरम्भ की थी और यह अनुपयुक्त साबित हुई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार का विचार इस आवर्ती योजना को समाप्त करने का है और यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

प्रधान मंत्री (श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी) :  
(क) जी हां ।

(ख) नई सरकार के योजना पर नए सिरे से विचार करने के समय ऐसा किया जायेगा।