

### Exchange of views with U.S.A. Regarding Tarapur Nuclear Plant:

355. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had recently any exchange of views in regard to the Tarapur Nuclear Plant with the USA; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) The Government of India, in terms of the bilateral cooperation agreement of 1963, continues to remain in touch with the Government of the United States of America on the question of fuel supplies and other matters.

(b) The Government of India awaits the decision of the Government of the United States of America on the overdue application in terms of the above agreement.

### Crisis in West Bengal Wagon Industry

356. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Wagon Industry in West Bengal is passing through crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) steps taken or proposed to be taken to salvage the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) and (b). The wagon-producing units of West Bengal in the past have been faced with problems of low off-take shortages of power and supply of inputs such as wheel sets.

(c) The Government have initiated various measures for improving the supply of inputs including wheel sets through imports. Also, the off-take of wagons by Indian Railways is expected to increase substantially thereby providing the wagon-building units an opportunity to improve their capacity utilisation and viability.

### Study of status of Minority Communities in States

357. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR  
SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have asked certain State Governments to make an in-depth study with regard to the status of the minority communities in certain towns;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the precise nature of study and purpose thereof; and

(c) the period by which the State Governments concerned are expected to complete the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. It has been suggested to certain State Governments to set up working groups for certain towns to carry out an in-depth study from socio-economic, educational and historical angles and formulate time-bound programmes for implementation. The concerned State Governments are expected to complete the study at the earliest.

### Cement Pricing Policy

358. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

SHRI B. D. SINGH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that because of the indecision of Government with regard to the cement pricing policy and for the expansion of the industry to give it an economic viability not only the indigenous production capacity remains unutilised but the country has also to import cement almost at 100 per cent higher cost to meet the demand;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices have recently made certain recommendations with regard to the cement prices; and