

**Shortage of Newspaper**

1208. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JA-DEJA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is an acute shortage of newspaper in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that newspaper agencies are facing great hardship for getting their requirement;

(c) if so, what are the main reasons for the shortage; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to solve the problem?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (b). There is no shortage of newspaper in the country, as adequate quantity is being imported to supplement domestic production. In cases where there is delay in arrival of shipments due to unforeseen circumstances, the State Trading Corporation of India makes efforts to divert supplies through its own stocks either on high seas sales basis or ex-buffer stocks maintained within the country.

**Shortage of Raw Material for Small Scale Industries in Orissa**

1209. SHRI MANMOHAN TUDU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of the fact about the severe scarcity of raw materials in the various small scale industries in Orissa;

(b) if so, the efforts Government propose to make to supply required quantity of steel, cement, caustic soda, aluminium and other raw materials to the small scale units of Orissa;

(c) whether such raw materials would be supplied through the State Small Scale Industries Corporation; and

(d) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA) (a) Government is aware of the difficulties faced by small scale industries all over the country, including those in Orissa, due to shortage of some categories of raw materials.

(b) Besides augmentation of the production of these raw materials in the country, the Government have taken the following steps:—

(i) liberalisation of the import policy for actual users for industrial raw materials and goods in short supply.

(ii) increase in the import of basic raw materials of Ferrous and non-ferrous and chemical items through the canalising agencies.

(iii) formulation of a proposal to create buffer stocks of some scarce raw materials for the small scale sector.

(c) and (d). Important raw materials like Iron and Steel, Aluminium, Cement etc. are allotted to the small scale units, either through the State Small Scale Industries Corporations or on the recommendation of the State Governments. The arrangements for the distribution of such raw materials through public agencies are being strengthened all over the country.

**Economic Rehabilitation Schemes for rural Poor**

1210. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has any proposal to introduce some economic rehabilitation schemes for the rural poor;

(b) if so, whether any such scheme is going to be introduced in Orissa during the Sixth Five year Plan;

(c) the number of rural poor expected to be provided economic rehabilita-