

in view of its sheds as a fast developing Centre with vast industrial complex and excellent export facilities such as a natural harbour besides coming up of an outer harbour project;

(b) whether it is not possible to make ready use at Visakhapatnam itself of the grinding mill of M/s. Andhra Cement Company, Vijayawada proposed to be transferred to somewhere outside the State; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) to (c) A request was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in January, 1975 requesting for setting up a grinding mill at Visakhapatnam either by the Cement Corporation or by the Government of India itself. The State Government was informed that it was not possible either for the Cement Corporation or for the Central Government to set up such a mill. The State Government who, however, asked that if any cement unit in Andhra Pradesh had a proposal to set up a grinding unit at Visakhapatnam on a split location basis, a concrete proposal should be sent for consideration of the Government. No such proposal has, however, been received so far

Loan assistance from Kuwait for Srisaillam Hydro-Electric Project, Andhra Pradesh

7371. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under negotiation about Kuwait Government's loan assistance for Srisaillam Hydro-Electric Project, Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has been approached for

providing assistance to India for financing some power Projects including Srisaillam Hydro-electric Project, Andhra Pradesh. The proposals are under consideration of the Fund.

Change in name of Punjab circle

7372. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to change the name of the Punjab Circle to North Western Circle, in view of the fact that the circle covers a multi-State region; and

(b) if so the likely date by which the decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) and (b) Punjab Circle has been renamed as North Western Circle with effect from 1st April, 1975.

Use of Urdu on name plates and notice boards of Post Offices in Himachal Pradesh

7373. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware of the fact that Urdu is taught in the schools of Himachal Pradesh and as such is recognised as the third language of the State;

(b) if so, whether the office-plates bearing the names or the designations of the officers, as also of the Post Offices etc. are also written in Urdu in all the official notice boards and plates of the post offices within the jurisdiction of the State of Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, the number of post offices where Urdu is used for this purpose: and

(d) if not the reasons for this discrimination against Urdu especially when it is taught in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Urdu has not been recognised as the Official Language of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Production Capacity of Explosives

7374. **SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:**

SHRI K. MALLANNA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the present production capacity of explosives in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to import explosives to meet the demand;

(c) whether Government propose to set up two new public sector units for manufacture of explosives needed by the coal industry in the country, and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) The present production of industrial explosives in the country is about 43,000 tonnes per annum.

(b) The current production of explosives is sufficient to meet the country's demand and there is no proposal to import explosives.

(c) and (d) Proposal to set up capacity for the manufacture of industrial explosives in the public sector are under consideration.

Action taken against the employees of the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited against whom shortages were reported

7375. **SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names and other particulars of employees of the Central Government Employees' Consumer Cooperative Society Limited, New Delhi, against whom shortages were reported;

(b) the amount of shortage and the period for which the shortages were there; and

(c) whether any enquiry has since been made in the whole matter and action taken against them besides recovering the amount of shortage; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) and (b) A list, for the period August, 1973 to January, 1975, showing names of employees against whom shortages were more than Rs. 100/-, besides, a statement showing the persistent shortages against two employees and the action taken, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 9509/75].

(c) Enquiries are made and action against the staff responsible for shortage is taken whenever the value of the shortage is considerable, besides recovering the value of the shortage. In cases where the shortages are not of a significant nature, only recovery of the value of the shortage is effected.

Finalisation of accounts of Central Government Employees' Consumer Cooperative Society Limited

7376 **SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the year upto which the final accounts of the Central Government Employees' Consumer Cooperative Society Limited, New Delhi, have been finalised and circulated among its delegates upto 31st March, 1975;

(b) the particular reasons for delay in finalising the accounts; and

(c) when the accounts of the Society upto 30th June, 1974, are likely to be finalised and circulated to its delegates?