

schemes for the development of Attappadi and Wymad to the Central Government for approval and for financial assistance under the Western Ghat Development Programme; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government to improve the living conditions of the people inhabiting in those areas?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three schemes proposed by the State Government have been approved and are being implemented.

#### Pending Applications for Industrial Licence from Kerala

287. SHRI C. H. MOHAMED KOYA  
SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether applications from the State of Kerala for grant of Industrial licence are pending with the Government of India; and

(b) if so, the number and the reasons thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI B. P. MAURYA):** (a) and (b). Out of the industrial licence applications for Kerala received till 31.7.78, 11 applications are pending. Various considerations such as availability of infra-structure, raw materials, know-how, demand, capacity installed etc. are kept in view while taking decisions on industrial licence applications. Every effect is being made to dispose of the pending applications as expeditiously as possible.

#### Issue of letters of intent to Assam

288. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters of intent issued to Assam by the Government during the last financial year; and

(b) how many of them have so far been implemented?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI B. P. MAURYA):** (a) 10 letters of intent were issued under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, for location of industrial units in Assam State during the last financial year 1978-79.

(b) The initial validity period of a letter of intent is one year, which can be further extended for another one year. Therefore, letters of intent issued during last financial year are at various stages of implementation.

#### Indian Craft on Newspool

289. SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL:  
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether he played an important role in getting the Indian Draft on the setting up of the newspool okayed at the Ministerial Conference of non-aligned countries on news agencies pool;

(b) the possible difficulties in the creation and working of the newspool and how these difficulties could be overcome; and

(c) whether India is prepared to give facilities in imparting education in the field of newspaper, Radio and Television to the member countries?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA):** (a) Minister (Information and Broadcasting) was elected as the President of the Ministerial Conference of the Non-aligned Countries on the Press Agencies Pool and as such he was naturally associated actively with all the work and the decision of the Conference, which were, however, the result of close cooperation and dedication of all the participating delegations.