

knowledge of the Reserve Bank of India ; and

(b) if so, Government reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). Certain transactions which appear to involve contravention of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act and have allegedly been entered into by or on behalf of Messrs New Central Jute Mills, Calcutta, have come to notice. Necessary adjudications proceedings have been initiated in this connection against the Company, its Directors and Secretaries, and the matter is now pending adjudication. A firm idea of the amount, if any, involved could be had only on completion of adjudication proceedings.

Creation of Jharkhand State

4016. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government intend to fulfil the aspirations of the people of Chhotanagpur Plateau and its contiguous areas by agreeing to create a separate Jharkhand State ; and

(b) if so, the action Government intend to take ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The question whether Jharkhand should be a separate State or should form part of Bihar was considered by the States Reorganisation Commission in 1955 and the Commission came to the conclusion that there was no justification for the creation of a separate Jharkhand State. The Government of India agreed with this recommendation of the Commission. There is no intention to reopen this issue.

Merger of Purlia with Bihar

4017. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the District of Purlia is one of the most backward areas of West Bengal ;

(b) whether Government are aware that the people of this District are urging for the return of this area to Bihar ;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take action in that direction without delay ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) This district has been identified by the State Government as a backward district and various measures have been initiated for the development of the district. For instance, it has been selected for the programme of development of Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers during the current plan and for taking up Rural Works to the extent of Rs. 2 crores in three years. It has also been selected as an industrially backward district and as such industries to be set up in the district will be getting certain financial concessions from financial institutions. The Central Government will also give subsidy to the extent of 10% for approved industrial projects to be set up in the district.

(b) Government are not aware of any such demand.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Indian Delegation's to visit to U. K. to promote exports of Indian Machine Tools

4018. SHRIMATI ILA PALCHOU-DHURI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation of the Indian machine tool industry headed by the Presi-