LOK SABHA

Friday, November 27, 1964/Agrahayana 6, 1886 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

Mr. Speaker: Secretary may call out the name of the Member who has come to make and subscribe the oath or affirmation under the Constitution.

Secretary: Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit.

The Minister of Communications and Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, I have great pleasure in introducing to you and through you to the House, Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit who has been returned to Lok Sabha from Phulpur constituency of Uttar Pradesh in the vacancy caused by the death of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit (Phulpur).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Import of Cement

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*225. { **Shri Vishram Prasad:** **Shri Bagri:**

Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 135 on the 11th September, 1964 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the proposal to import cement to meet the acute shortage in the country; and

(b) if so, how much cement will be imported and from which country?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It has been decided not to import any cement.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : क्या यह सही है कि रूस हिन्दुस्तान को सीमेंट रुपीज़ की वैल्यू में देना चाहता है ; अगर हां, तो चूंकि इस देश में बहुत सी योजनायें सीमेंट की कमी की वजह से स्थगित पड़ी हुई हैं, इसलिए क्या सरकार वहां से सीमेंट इम्पोर्ट करने के बारे में सोच रही है ?

Shri Bibudhendra Misra: It has been considered taking all aspects of the question into consideration as also the overall position in the country and the requirements. The main requirements of the Central sponsoring authorities, like, Defence, Railways, Water and Power Commission, any everything has been considered. In view of the shortage of foreign exchange the Government has come to the conclusion that it is not necessary to import any cement. The shortage is there but it is not to the extent of retarding the progress of any important sector.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद: अगर सरकार बाहर से सीमेंट इम्पोर्ट नहीं करना चाहती है, तो वह सीमेंट की कमी को पूरा करने के लिए कौन से कदम उठा रही है, क्योंकि इस की वजह से देश की जनता परेशान है और बहुत सी योजनायें स्थगित पड़ी हुई हैं ?