

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to overcome these impediments in rapid industrialisation of the backward areas ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) to (c). The main impediments in the development of backward areas are lack of infrastructure, entrepreneurship, remoteness from market, non-availability of raw material, non-availability of skilled labour etc.

In order to encourage the setting up of industries in backward areas the Government of India have offered various monetary incentives, technical assistance and fiscal concessions.

Permission Sought by Maharashtra Government for Floating a Company in Collaboration with a Dubai Firm

*450. DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Maharashtra Government have sought permission of the Centre to raise finances to float a company in collaboration with a Dubai firm for constructing the West Island Freeway Project in Bombay ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY) : (a) and (b). While currently there is no such proposal from the Govt. of Maharashtra, in November 1981, they did seek the approval of the Government of India for setting up a joint venture with equity participation with Dubai Transport Company Private Ltd. for this project in Bombay. However, this could not be agreed to and the State Government have not pursued the question of this joint venture any further.

Requirement, production and import of cement

*451. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the

Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of Cement required in the country in 1984 ;

(b) the total quantity of cement assessed to be produced in the country in 1984 ;

(c) the total gap, if any, between the estimated requirement and the production of cement in 1984 ;

(d) whether there is any proposal for import of cement in 1984 ; and

(e) if so, from which countries ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) to (c). As against an estimated demand of 37.00 million tonnes of cement as envisaged in the Sixth Five Year Plan document, domestic production is expected to be of the order of 32.5 million tonnes in 1984-85, leaving a gap of 4.5 million tonnes.

(d) No decision has yet been taken in regard to import of cement during the year 1984-85.

(e) Does not arise.

U.G.C Delay in Sanctioning Teachers' Fellowship

*452. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been complaints about University Grants Commission causing inordinate delay in sanctioning Teachers' Fellowship despite the recommendations made by the concerned universities to this effect ;

(b) if so, what specific guidelines Government have given to the UGC in such cases ;

(c) the number of such pending cases of Orissa State, especially of Utkal University, during the year 1983-84 ; and