

and general paucity of funds, it is too early to indicate whether any new National Expressways could be undertaken during 1991-93.

[English]

### Missing Shares and Debentures

\*361. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:  
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of scrips of shares and debentures worth Rs.2.60 crores have been found missing from the Vault of the Stock Holding Corporation of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e). Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited (SHCIL) has informed that no scrips of shares and debentures were lost from its vault. However, SHCIL found that some consignments of certificates of shares and debentures worth Rs.2.79 crores sent through a courier agency were not delivered to the concerned companies. The courier agency had furnished to SHCIL fake acknowledgement receipts of delivery of scrips to these companies.

The Department of Company Affairs has conducted an inspection of the books of account of SHCIL under Section 209 A of the Companies Act, 1956. The inquiry has revealed that a courier agency fraudulently fur-

nished to SHCIL fake acknowledgement receipts of delivery of share and debenture scrips to the companies concerned.

SHCIL has since received duplicate certificates of shares and debentures from companies for the value of Rs.2.14 crores and original certificates from one company for the value of Rs.67,300. It is in correspondence with the remaining companies for the issue of duplicate certificates. SHCIL has also filed FIR with the police at Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta.

[Translation]

### To Be Answered On The 31st July, 1992 DTC Losses

\*362. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:  
SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether net loss to DTC is likely to increase during the financial year 1992-93 inspite of 100 per cent increase in bus fares;

(b) if so, the estimated total net loss thereof;

(c) the reasons for the continuing increase in losses;

(d) whether DTC has decided to reduce the size of its fleet;

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total net loss of DTC during 1992-93 (including interest and depreciation) is estimated at Rs.217 crores.

(c) The reasons for losses include:-

- (a) uneconomic fare structure of DTC.
- (b) rising cost of labour and cost of inputs.
- (c) concessions given to students and weaker section of society through concessional passes.
- (d) heavy interest burden on loans advanced by Government.

(d) and (e). No decision has been taken to reduce the size of DTC fleet.

#### **Export of Processed Edible Products**

\*363. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:  
SHRI N.J. RATTHVA:

will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether fruits, vegetables and other edible items worth crores of rupees perish each year in the country due to lack of proper facilities;

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate a comprehensive policy to increase export of processed edible products;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have also received suggestions from the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the

reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE : (SHRI P. J. KURIEN):  
(a) and (b). While no authentic information is available, it is estimated that fruits and vegetables valued at Rs.3000 crores are wasted every year due to inadequate post-harvest handling as well as absence of linkage of growers with the processors and fresh fruits and vegetables markets. National Horticulture Board is implementing various schemes to strengthen post-harvest infrastructure and reduce the post harvest losses.

(c) to (f). 'Processed Foods' have been identified as a thrust area for exports. Government has, in consultation with the processed foods industry, and keeping in view the suggestions received from the Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry, chalked out a strategy for export growth in this sector. The strategy basically includes; making our processed foods more price competitive through provisions of various inputs at reasonable prices, and through improved infra-structural support.

#### **Import of Almond**

364. SHRI DAUDAYAL JOSHI: will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries from which almonds have been imported during each of the last three years along with the quantity and rates thereof and the total amount of foreign exchange incurred thereon; and

(b) the steps taken during the above period to reduce the import of almonds and to increase its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE