

**Import of Spare Parts**

\*152. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have to depend on imports for procuring spare parts of imported arms;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme for reducing the dependence on import of spare parts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange likely to be saved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) :

(a) Through sustained efforts of indigenisation, spares of a large number items of imported defence equipment have been indigenised, the number of which is approximately 53 thousands. However, that cannot fully obviate the continued need for import of some items.

(b) to (d). With the involvement of industrial units in the public and the private sector, the effort for indigenisation has been given a new fillip (i) with the finalisation of the plan for self-reliance in defence systems and (ii) the implementation of a plan of action to enlist participation of small scale entrepreneurs, particularly those with technical qualifications.

The development orders placed every year are of the order of Rs. 250 crores; the size of the follow on orders is larger, leading to a commensurate saving in foreign exchange.

[English]

**Examination Fee**

\*153. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the condition to pay examination fee by job applicants results in unbearable burden on unemployed youth, particularly those belonging to lower middle classes and weaker sections;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered the desirability of abolishing such fee for class-III and IV jobs under the Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) to (c). No fee is generally charged for recruitment to Group 'D' posts. For other posts, where recruitment is done by the Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission/Railway Recruitment Board, a nominal examination/recruitment fee has been prescribed so that these bodies are not flooded with applications of non-serious candidates thus affecting smooth conduct of the examination. However, SC/ST candidates are already exempted from the requirement of payment of fee for any competitive examination/selection conducted by the above bodies. Physically Handicapped candidates and Ex-servicemen who apply for Group 'B' (non-gazetted) and Group 'C' posts advertised by UPSC/SSC are also exempted completely from payment of fees.

**Jessop and Company**

\*154. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether six thousand workers and employees of the Jessop and Company in West Bengal, a taken-over Central Government Undertaking have not been paid salaries and wages since March last;

(b) whether this case has been referred to BIFR;

(c) whether the company has been denied working capital by all nationalised banks and public sector financial institution;

(d) if so, whether the Government have since made a case study of it;

(e) if so, the results thereof; and

(f) the steps the Government propose to take for the speedy revival of the unit?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN) : (a) The employees of Jessop & Co. have been paid wages & salary upto May, 1995.