

of Lucknow branch of State Bank of Indore have shown false entries to the tune of about one crore rupees in their accounts in the months of March/April, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). State Bank of Indore has reported that they have received a complaint from a staff member against the affairs of their Lucknow branch containing various charges including inflation of deposits. However, during investigation all allegations made were found baseless except that an amount of Rs.25 Lakhs was wrongly added in the accounts of Harijan Avam Nirbal Varg Avas Nigam on 30.3.91, this being the amount of cheque deposited by them in their account which was returned unpaid not debited. The branch manager has been issued a warning by the bank for the lapse. The bank has further reported that the increase in deposits during this period was due to a grant received by a department from the Government and deposited in this account.

[English]

Indo-Canadian Joint Ventures

1576. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of Indian businessmen visited Canada in June 1991 to explore the possibilities of setting up joint ventures by the two countries;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether a Canadian delegation also

likely to visit India as a follow up of the visit of Indian businessmen; and

(d) the main industries proposed to be represented from the Canadian side and the future plan under the joint ventures including financial commitments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

A delegation of Indian businessmen visited Canada-India Joint Venture Programme sponsored by the Canada-India Business Council in cooperation with the Industrial Cooperation Division of Canadian International Development.. gency. The objective of this programme is to encourage and increase the number of Canadian joint ventures and technical collaborations with India. The programme is stated to have gone reasonably well and the experience gained is expected to be utilised to achieve better results in the remaining part of the programme.

In the second phase of the programme, a Canadian delegation is expected to visit India. The main industries that would be represented from the Canadian side include consultancy, Oil and Gas, Petrochemicals, Telecommunications, Construction, International Marketing, paper and Pulp, power, polymers, Steel; dry cargo containers etc.

Amendments in Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985

*1577. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has sought change in the definition of sick company;

(b) whether the above Board has urged the Government to undertake early implementation of its long pending suggestions for amending the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 to enable the Board to function more effectively;

(c) if so, the broad features of these suggestions; and

(d) the steps have taken or propose to be taken by the Government to remove the various lacunae in the Act affecting the working of the Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Comprehensive amendments to the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 are presently under the consideration of Government, Suggestions for amendments received from several agencies including BIFR are being evaluated for consideration of their inclusion in the comprehensive amendments.

[*Translation*]

Closure of Hope Textile Mills, Indore

1578. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether BIFR have recommended the closure of the Hope Textile Mills located in Indore;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in regard to the persons to be rendered jobless as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) The case of Hope Textile Mills, Indore, stands registered with BIFR. According to BIFR, the company was under winding up notice as on 30.6.91. But order has been reserved on account of stay order from Supreme Court.

(c) In view of (a) & (b) question does not arise.

[*English*]

Expansion of Container Freight Stations

1579. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have felt the need for the expansion of containerisation system;

(b) if so, the places or cities/towns identified therefor;

(c) whether container freight stations are proposed to be set up during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) M/s. Rail India Technical & Economic Services in their 'Perspective Plan for Development of containerisation in India' have identified 23 potential places for setting-up Inland Container Depots (ICDs) and 71 places for setting-up container Freight Stations (CFSs) in the horizon years 1989-90 to 1999-2000. Lists of these places are attached as Statements I & II respectively.