

ment against the reported illegal exports of skins of such wild animals?

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the illegal exports do not come to the notice of Ministry of Commerce. I am sure, there are cases of illegal exports. But this question should be addressed to the Ministry of Finance, Department of Customs who will be able to tell whether there are illegal exports or not.

[Translation]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the monkeys are found in large number in Himachal Pradesh, which cause a heavy damage to the crops there and all the methods employed to catch them have been failed. So I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister through you whether the Government would lift the ban on the export of monkeys in order to save the crops of fruits, vegetables and grain in Himachal Pradesh.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I have no objection if Government or any other organisation catches the monkeys. My objection is only to the export of monkeys which is banned.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that frogs are still being exported and because of that the paddy crop in Thane district and many other districts is damaged. I would like to know whether the Government is aware of it and if they do not know about it whether they would collect the information and give it.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: As I said earlier, the hon. Member's choice of the verb is not correct. Forces are not exported. Export has been banned. Frogs may be smuggled out. That is a question which has to be addressed to the Department of Customs

who handle the smuggling. I cannot answer on behalf of them.

44-46 De. Ch. S.S. S.S. / D.K.S.
Reinstatement of SC/ST Employees of D.T.C.

*719. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the services of more than 500 SC/ST D.T.C. conductors/drivers who had rendered more than two years' service in the grade were dispensed with during 1988;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to reinstate these employees; and

(c) the time by which all these employees are likely to be reinstated?

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

(b) There is no proposal before the Government to reinstate these employees as DTC is having surplus employees.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: These employees were given employment to clear the backlog of SC and ST. Do you have that backlog still existing?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: We have the backlog. Whenever the vacancies arise, we will take them.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: What about these vacancies? They were taken against that backlog. Have these vacancies been filled or not?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Whatever is the requirement of employees needed in the D.T.C., we are trying to clear the backlog.

[Translation]

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SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether it is a fact that the conductors and the drivers were recruited at Gaziabad and Dadri in D.T.C. a few days before 500 adhoc Scheduled Caste employees were retrenched? Why were those Scheduled Caste employees, who had been working for two-three years, not absorbed if there were any vacancies and why were the new employees recruited at Gaziabad and Dadri.

[English]

SHRIJAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, whenever a vacancy arises, as I have told the hon. Member Shri Hooda also and I am also telling Shri Madan Lal Khurana, we have a list of employees and we are trying to shorten the list which is under this category.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I did not get the reply to my question. I would like to know as to why those employees were retrenched who had been working there for two-three years?

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SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this use has become very old. Those retrenched Scheduled Castes conductors and drivers had already completed this minimum period of 180 days required for regularisation of service as per rules. But all of a sudden, they were retrenched. After that they went on hunger-strike and staged a dharna at the gate of the Minister of Transport. And the Minister of Transport gave them an assurance.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, time is over.

SHRI KALKA DAS: The Minister of Transport had given an assurance that they

would be reinstated very soon. I would like to know the time by which they will be reinstated by the Government?

[English]

SHRIJAGDISH TYTLER: I would like to inform the hon. Member that out of these 500 drivers, 330 have already been taken back, 42 cannot be taken because their record is bad and about 127, we are waiting for them to join.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

46
Development and Widening of of National Highway from Ramgarh to Bokaro in Bihar

*717. **SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MERTA:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National highway from Ramgarh to Bokaro in Hazaribagh (Bihar) is not in traffic-worthy condition;

(b) If so, the amount sanctioned for the development and widening of this portion of the National Highway;

(c) the time by which the work on this road is proposed to be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORTS: (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) National Highway No. 23 from Ramgarh to Bokaro is mostly single lane in width with inadequate