

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Delegation's report is awaited.

(c) Quality Control and preshipment inspection have been introduced on a voluntary basis with a view to ensure the quality of goods exported, to all destinations.

Khadi and Village Industries Board, Orissa

443. Shri N. R. Laskar: Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken to recover the amount (Rs. 288722.18nP) misappropriated in the sales and production centres of the Khadi and Village Industries Board, Orissa;

(b) whether the persons responsible for this misappropriation have been found out; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). The information is being collected.

Sale of Imported Cars

444. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to give preference to important personnel and Government Departments in the disposal of imported cars surrendered by members of foreign missions and acquired by the State Trading Corporation; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The following order of priority has been decided for the allocation of imported cars acquired by the State Trading Corporation:—

(1) Tourist Promotion

(2) Rajasthan Bhavan

(3) Raj Bhavans

(4) Defence requirement

(5) Central/State Governments

(6) Public Sector Undertakings

(7) Sales to public through sealed tenders.

Resolving Disputes between Government and Suppliers

445. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether any machinery is proposed to be established for resolving disputes between the Directorate of Supply and Disposals and suppliers out of court; and

(b) if so, the underlying idea and the broad outline of the proposal?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Supply (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) and (b). The General Conditions of Contract at present applicable to Contracts placed by the Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals, provide for settlement of disputes through sole arbitration by an officer in the Ministry of Law, appointed to be arbitrator by the Director General of S & D. Where a supplier does not agree to arbitration as provided in the General Conditions of Contract, at the time of tendering, the settlement of the dispute, if any, arising will be governed by the laws of the land for the time being in force. Government are, however, considering a proposal that a Claims Committee may be set up for resolving such disputes, if it is found that there will be general acceptance of the proposal. The idea is that the Claims Committee may consist of a person who holds or has held high judicial office in association with Ministries of Finance and Law. The Committee will examine the claims submitted for negotiation and attempt to arrive at an amicable settlement.