

इस्यलत, खान तथा धातु मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्र० चं० सेठी) : (क) और (ख). राष्ट्रीय कोयला विकास निगम के अधिकारियों द्वारा जीपों के गलत प्रयोग करने के आरोप के विषय में कुछ शिकायतें मिली थीं। इस प्रकार की एक शिकायत पर सरकार अभी जांच कर रही है। दूसरी शिकायतों पर जांच की जा चुकी है और उनको सत्य नहीं पाया गया है। राष्ट्रीय कोयला विकास निगम के अधिकारी व्यक्तिगत काम काज के लिये, निश्चित दरों पर पैसे दिये बिना निगम की गाड़ियां प्रयोग नहीं कर सकते।

(ग) प्रश्न उत्पन्न नहीं होता।

#### ENCOURAGEMENT FOR INVENTIONS

3497. SHRI R. BARUA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up any scheme for giving financial assistance to encourage inventions and outstanding achievements in the field of applied science and technology; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir, Government have established an Inventions Promotion Board for encouraging inventions and outstanding achievement in the field of applied science and technology, and for promoting inventive talent in the country.

(b) The encouragement given by the Inventions Promotion Board is in two forms viz. (a) Prize Awards (b) financial assistance. The Prize Awards are given for outstanding invention and these are announced on 26th January and 15th August every year. Financial assistance is given for the development of inventions which are found to be technically feasible and commercially viable. It covers cost of material, labour, provision of workshop and other facilities, assistance for obtaining patents and other costs upto the prototype stage.

Applications containing full technical details in the prescribed forms for awards and financial assistance are initial scrutinised by the technical staff of the Inventions Promotion Board and thereafter opinions of at least two experts in the respective field are obtained. The departmental assesment and the experts opinion are finally examined by a committee which decides on the award and quantum of financial assistance to be granted in each case.

#### IMPORT OF RAW WOOL

3498. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the raw wool imports after the national Emergency were mainly for the purpose of producing defence goods;

(b) whether it is also a fact that large part of the wool imported for this purpose was diverted for the production of goods for civilian consumption;

(c) whether these goods for civilian consumption were sold at prices ranging from Rs. 40 to Rs. 70 per meter when the manufacturing cost and the cost of import facilities was only Rs. 4 to 5 per meter; and

(d) whether these parties were punished for their illegal diversion of imported raw material for civilian use?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Out of the total imports of wool and other materials of the order of Rs. 1148 lakhs inclusive of about Rs. 250 lakhs provided by the industry out of its actual user licences, for defence requirements, wool and other raw materials of the value of only about Rs. 62 lakhs having been declared surplus to Defence requirements, were diverted for production of goods for civilian consumption.

(c) In the absence of any price or distribution control on woollen fabrics for the civilian market, Government have no definite information on this point.