

year which is circulated to all Ministries/ Departments/Offices of the Central Government. Progressive use of Hindi is sought to be ensured through this annual programme.

7. With a view to accelerating the progressive use of Hindi, the Central Government have initiated many incentives scheme which are as follow :—

- (a) Scheme of awarding Rajbhasa Shield, Trophy and medals.
- (b) Grant of incentive allowance to Stenographers and Typists for doing their official work in Hindi in addition to English.
- (c) Incentive Scheme to original Hindi noting/drafting in official work.
- (d) Scheme of monetary incentives on passing Hindi examinations under Hindi Teaching Scheme.
- (e) Scheme of monetary incentives on passing the Hindi Typing/Hindi Stenography examination under Hindi Teaching Scheme.

Amount written off by S.O.C. of IX Asian Games

5674. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS, be pleased to state :

(a) whether an amount of Rs. 512576.11 written off by the SOC of IX Asian Games have been written back and adjusted in the amount of 1983-84; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Special Organising Committee has intimated that this accounting adjustment was necessitated due to the fact that certain consumable items of stores issued to various field agencies and charged as consumption during 1982-83 were subsequently returned by them, after the close

of financial year. These were written back and adjusted in prior period expenses on reconciliation between store records and corresponding financial account.

Arms Haul at Madras Harbour

5675. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated 4 April, 1985 wherein it has been stated that a large quantity of arms and ammunitions was seized at Madras Harbour from a container which was booked from Singapore;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any inquiry has since been conducted and if so, outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The vessel M.V. Sea Express which arrived at Madras Harbour on 15-3-85 carried among other items a container said to contain waste paper. When the container was opened in the presence of Officials on 2-4-85, it was found that it contained arms & ammunitions, gas cylinders, transmission sets etc. A detailed list of items found in the container is given in enclosed statement.

(c) The matter is under investigation.

Statement

Inventory of Items found in Container

1. 20 cases each containing 15 sets of stenguns—i.e. a total of 300.
2. 70 Gunny covered bundles each containing 10 pieces of rifles—i.e. a total of 700.
3. 241 packages (cases) containing bullets.
4. High pressure Gas Cylinders—15 Nos.

5. One carton Belt for Cylinders—15 Nos.
6. One bundle Cylinder valves—15 Nos.
7. 51 Nos. bundles of cloth.
8. 2 Cartons—Photo copying machine and one power transformer.
9. 2 Cartons—Trans—Receivers.
10. 3 Cartons containing 4 Nos. Communication Receivers.
11. 2 Cartons—Hammock—120 Nos.
12. One carton—Amplifiers.
13. One carton—Retender Regulator.
14. One bundle white paper.
15. Antenna—5 Nos.
16. 3 Nos. Connectors and 2 pices connection wires.
17. Six bales Kraft waste papers.

Construction of Building by Asiatic Society

5676. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a sum of Rs. 34 lakh sanctioned by the Planning Board of the Asiatic Society during the year 1984-85 for the construction of its bicentenary building remained unutilised; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Planning Board of the Asiatic Society which is an advisory Board, recommended an allocation of Rs. 53 lakhs during 1984-85 for the construction of two additional floors on the existing building of the Society. The Society, however, earmarked Rs. 12 lakhs for the purpose for the said year.

(b) The amount could not be spent as the plans and estimates of the proposed

construction could not be cleared through the local authorities due to restrictions imposed under the recently altered building bye-laws of the Calcutta Corporation. The possibilities of setting the work executed by the CPWD is being examined.

Checking of Deforestation in Rural and Hill Areas

5677. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether deforestation has become a problem in the rural and hill regions due to shortage of gas, kerosene and cement etc;

(b) the steps taken so far to check deforestation in rural and hill regions; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider regular marketing of these commodities at subsidised rates in such areas in order to protect forests and also ensure regular supply to the people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) As consumption of gas and kerosene in the rural and hilly regions is insignificant, their shortage does not create any more deforestation problem. Shortage of cement does not pose a problem to the protection of forests.

(b) The following steps are taken to check deforestation :—

The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to check indiscriminate diversion of forest lands to non-forest uses.

Guidelines have been issued to States and Union Territories for the preparation of working (management) plans and the working of forests.

The States and Union Territories have been advised to strengthen the enforcement machinery at the field level.

The National Forest Policy is being reviewed to provide the needed thrust in favour of forest conservation and to create a massive people's movement for this purpose.