

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : (a) Income-tax Department has not conducted search in the case of any steel trader in Delhi/Bombay in 1985.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Proposal to Reserve Certain Item of Import-Export for SC/ST Traders

7142. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to reserve certain percentage of items of import/export for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes persons to enable these weaker sections to improve their standard of living;

(b) whether it is proposed to patronise real workers' firms/associations to export leather and leather goods like, shoes, etc. rather than patronise middlemen; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Bharat Leather Corporation and the various State Leather Development Corporation are assisting small scale units engaged in the manufacture of finished leather and leather products in internal marketing as well as export. State Trading Corporation of India Limited, Trade Development Authority and the National Small Industries Corporation are also assisting these units in exporting their products.

Revival of Cashew Industry in Kerala

7143. PROF. K. V. THOMAS SHRI SURESH KURUP :

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the attention of Government that cashew industry in Kerala is in a declining trend; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to revive the industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Cashew Industry concentrated mainly in Kerala has been facing problem arising from the fluctuations in International prices and rising cost of production of raw cashew and its processing. A number of schemes including the multi-state cashew development programme are being implemented to increase productivity, reduce cost of cultivation and to increase the availability of raw cashew.

Reports of Silk Board Officials visit Foreign Countries.

7144. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of **SUPPLY AND TEXTILES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that officials of Central Silk Board are paying visits abroad on Government expense in the names of development of silk industry ;

(b) if so, whether they have submitted their reports in that regard ; and

(c) the details of the expenditure incurred thereon along with the number of occasions when the officials paid visit abroad and the date of their submission of reports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Officers from the Central Silk Board go abroad on official tours as and when necessary in the interest of official work. The expenditure on such visits is met by the Central Silk Board which is a statutory Board fully founded by the Central Government. Such visits have been normally in connection with study of

sericulture industry in other countries, participation in international conference, trade fairs etc.

(b) and (c). This information is being collected from the Central Silk Board and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Creation of Third World Development Bank of Finance Development Project

7145. SHRI R.S. GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 960 on 30th April, 1982 regarding creation of Third World Development to Finance Development projects and state :

(a) whether subsequent meetings of group of 77 were held to consider feasibility after the first meeting of the group of 77 experts on Financial Corporation took place in Kingston, Jamaica from March 26 to 31, 1982 and

(b) if so, the detailed progress thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. A number of meetings of G-77 were held after the first meeting of Group of experts in Kingston, Jamaica in March, 1982 to consider feasibility of a Bank for developing countries. At these meeting it was decided inter alia, that the size of the capital of the Bank should be based on concrete and practical arrangements that would enable self-sustained and viable operations. It was also decided to hold intensive consultations with all member governments to obtain their views on further steps to be taken for the establishment of the Bank. Extensive studies were also carried out by a number of expert bodies with a view to work out a feasible scheme of action.

[Translation]

New item Captioned 'Hawai Adde Per Croron Ki Herapheri

7146. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMED : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Hawai Adde per Croron Ki Herapheri' (Bungling of crores at airport) appeared in the 'Nav Bharat Times' of 15th January, 1985;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are taking suitable measures to keep a watch in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No case of 'bungling worth crores at Airport' as given in the press report has come to notice. However, on 3-1-85, at Sahar International Airport, police officers seized foreign exchange equivalent of Rs. 43,871/- from Shri Balkrishna Ramchandra Satam, a loader at the Airport. Subsequently 2 more persons were arrested.

(c) and (d). Officers in plain clothes are posted at strategic points in the Arrival Hall and the tarmac to keep general surveillance. Selective checks on percentage basis are also exercised in both Green and Red Channels to detect cases of mis-declaration.

[English]

Discovery of Tin-Ore in Koraput District

7147. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Geological Survey of India has discovered sizeable deposits of tin-ore in Koraput district Orissa; and

(b) the steps taken for proper exploitation of tin-ore found in that district ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Tin deposits have been