

of Entry, required under the law, for clearance of any imported goods. On the 19th March, 1985, "Peoples' Relief Committee" filed clearance documents for two consignments of 134 packages, and these were allowed clearance on the same day. No documents for clearance of remaining consignments have yet been filed.

Ban on Bringing T.V. Sets by Tourists

776. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nearly 1000 television sets are brought to India by tourists every day from different ports and airports under baggage rules;

(b) whether it will not effect the indigenous T.V. manufacturers; and

(c) whether Government propose to ban bringing of T.V. sets into the country by tourists under baggage rules or withdraw the concession given under baggage rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Having regard to the relief already given to the indigenous television manufacturers, by way of reduction in Customs and Excise duties on components, the import of televisions as part of passenger's baggage, at the rates of duty applicable to baggage, is not likely to adversely affect the indigenous industry.

(c) No, Sir.

Absorption of Displaced Persons in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

777. SHRI S.M. BHATTAM: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are committed to the policy of providing employment at the rate of one person per family of the displaced persons in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant area;

(b) if so, the total number of such displaced persons under Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in the first and second phase put

together and the number of persons out of them who have been provided jobs so far;

(c) the year-wise and category-wise absorption of all such displaced persons;

(d) whether the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant Authorities have expressed inability to absorb and provide jobs for more than five thousand persons; and

(e) if so, the manner in which Government propose to provide jobs to the remaining displaced persons?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) It is the policy of the Government of India to consider for employment in the steel plants one able-bodied persons from each family displaced on account of acquisition of land for the construction of the steel plant.

(b) Total number of households shifted so far is 4964. Approximately another 4600 households are yet to be shifted. So far 1275 displaced persons have been employed on the regular rolls of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. As on 28.2.1985, 4404 displaced persons are employed with the contractors engaged on the construction of the steel project.

(c) The yearwise absorption of displaced persons on the regular rolls of VSP is as follows:—

Till December	1982	—	541
	1983	—	583
	1984	—	150
	1985	—	1 (Till 28.2.1985)

			1275

Out of the above 1275 displaced persons, 511 are absorbed in Group 'C' posts i.e. skilled and semiskilled and 764 in Group 'D' posts i.e. unskilled.

(d) and (e). The scope of total employment in a potential steel plant like V.S.P. planned to adopt most modern sophisticated technologies is very limited. Further, its requirements would be mainly for highly skilled and experienced personnel. The project authorities have been giving preferences to displaced persons in matters of employ-

ment. In order to facilitate their employment, they are being given relaxation with regard to age. In several cases they have been trained in order to make them employable.

Considering that the total employment in the projects is estimated to be only 12,000 and the above mentioned position, the total employment of the displaced persons may not exceed 5,000 as currently assessed by the project authorities. The feasibility of providing self-employment to the displaced persons, employment in ancillary industries/services etc. are being explored.

Better International Market for Jute

778. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry will treat the problems of jute industry of West Bengal like the textile industry in Maharashtra and Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the specific economic measures Government propose to take to create better international market for jute and to save the sick or closed units of jute industry in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). The problems of Jute and Textile industry are not identical. However, the problems of the jute industry are receiving the desired attention of the Government and the Government has been taking necessary corrective steps, from time to time, to improve the functioning and viability of jute mills and its competitiveness in the international markets. The steps taken by the Government include:—

- (i) Grant of increased CCS on export of jute goods;
- (ii) Involving STC in assisting exports of CBC to North American Markets by forming STC-Jute Industry Consortium on 50:50 loss sharing basis;
- (iii) Constituting a new Jute Manufactures Development Council and a Jute Fund out of proceeds of

jute cess to give boost to R. & D efforts and export promotion;

- (iv) Purchase of jute goods by Govt. (DGS&D) from jute industry on cost plus basis;
- (v) Introduction of compulsory use of 100% new jute bags by cement industry;
- (vi) Persuading other user departments to use more jute bags instead of synthetic substitutes for packing of fertilizers;
- (vii) Free import of raw jute from Nepal through Jute Corporation of India;
- (viii) Setting up of a Standing Committee under the auspices of RBI to study viability of jute mills and to suggest a package of financial measures for the rehabilitation of potentially viable units;
- (ix) With a view to improving the supply position of raw jute, the Government have taken the following steps:—
 - (a) Regulating the stock holdings of jute mills under the Jute (Control and Licensing) Order, 1961 to bring about more equitable distribution of raw jute;
 - (b) Authorising Jute Corporation of India to arrange for import of 5 lakh bales of raw jute from abroad. However, against the above authorisation, JCI have been able to contract for import of about 3 lakh bales.

Overdrafts by Government of West Bengal in five years

779. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of occasions for which Government of West Bengal had to resort to overdraft from the Centre during the last five years; and