

is reviewed in detail with reference to the purpose for which the advance had been given, the nature of business and the status of borrower, availability of security, worth of borrower/guarantors, etc. On the basis of the review, steps are initiated to recover/regularise the advances. Steps taken may include attempts to nurse the unit, improve its business by diversifying its activity, enhancing the profitability, etc. If such steps do not bear any fruit, advances are recalled and steps are initiated to recover the advances by enforcement of security or by initiating legal proceedings against the party.

Assistance to Tripura for paying D. A. at Central rates to State Government Employees

1526. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Tripura have approached the Union Government for finances to sanction Dearness Allowance at the Central rates to the State Government employees of Tripura;

(b) whether Government are aware that Tripura is a backward State and has no financial resources to sanction Dearness Allowance at the Central rates to the State employees without the financial assistance of the Union Government; and

(c) if so, whether the Union Government would sanction more funds to Tripura Government so as to remove disparity in Dearness Allowance between the Central and State Government employees ?

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

(b) and (c). Sanctioning of D.A. to the employees of State Government is a matter that falls entirely within the States discretion. It would not be

possible for the Centre to provide any assistance for this purpose.

Export of Salt to Africa by STC.

1527. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Trading Corporation intend to export salt to Africa;

(b) if so, the quality thereof;

(c) the agencies through which it will be exported; and

(d) the amount of profit to accrue thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both Crushed and Uncrushed Indian Marine salt with minimum 96% on dry basis.

(c) It will be exported through members of Indian Salt Manufacturers Association in the Country.

(d) STC's service charge is 1% on FOB prices for quantity above 1,000 MT and 5% for quantity of 1000 MT and below.

Trade and Economic Co-operation between India and Oil-producing Gulf Countries

1528. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that gaps of communication as also of confidence are coming in the way of greater and economic co-operation between India and the oil-producing Gulf countries; and