

(c) whether Government propose to meet the representatives of trade to consider these suggestions before these are implemented; and

(d) when these suggestions are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) & (b). Representations were received in the latter part of 1985 from trade and industry for a fresh look on the duty drawback system and its simplification. The Government had set up a Committee under Shri J. Datta, Chairman, Central Board of Excise & Customs for a comprehensive review of the duty drawback system and suggesting measures for its rationalisation/simplification. The Committee's report was received by the government in January, 1986 containing various recommendations and suggesting a number of changes in the system.

(c) The committee has made its recommendations taking into consideration the viewpoints expressed by the representatives of the trade. No prior consultation with the trade is therefore considered essential for implemental action.

(d) The government has already taken action on some of the recommendations made by the Committee while the others are in the process of implementation.

Increase in procurement, distribution and handling cost of wheat and rice

7831. **SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :** Will the Minister of **FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' of 15 February, 1986 wherein it has been stated that 93 per cent of the pooled cost for procurement and distribution of wheat and rice were beyond the control of Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, full details of the component which are beyond the control of

F.C.I and which are responsible for raising the procurement and handling cost;

(c) whether his Ministry proposes to take up the matter with the Railways and other Government agencies to ensure that the costs are not enhanced as ultimately the vulnerable section of society has to bear the enhanced cost; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The expenditure incurred towards Mandi Charges and Purchase Tax (Statutory), Gunny cost (DGS&D rates), Interest, Storage, Administration and carrying cost payable to the State agencies are inevitable in the procurement incidents.

As regards, distribution expenses, the freight (mostly railway freight), storage charges, interest charges (at Bank rates) and normal grain shortages are inevitable charges.

(c) & (d). Though there is no proposal to take up the matter with the Railways and other Government agencies for controlling enhancement of costs constant efforts are made to reduce these costs by improving the operational efficiency of Food Corporation of India.

Proposal for an All India Tourism Body

7832. **SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :**

DR. G. S. RAJHANS :

Will the Minister of **PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Travel Agents Association of India has suggested formation of an All India Tourism body in the country ;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have examined the above suggestion ;

(c) if so the details thereof ; and

(d) to what extent the proposed All India Tourism body will boost the growth of tourism industry in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI
H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Government has already set up a High Level Tourism Advisory Board in July, 1983 which included 14 official and 6 non-official members, representing various segments of the tourism industry. This Board considers and recommends measures necessary for promotion of tourism and reviews the progress on a continuing basis.

**Housing Scheme for Handloom
Weavers of Kerala**

7833. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHO-
THAMAN : Will the Minister of TEX-
TILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala have forwarded a scheme to the Union Government on housing for the handloom weavers ; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHUR-
SHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Kerala have proposed construction of 750 house-cum-worksheds and 4150 worksheds only for handloom weavers during the Seventh Plan. During 1985-86, Central Government has released an amount of Rs. 2 75 lakhs as matching contribution for construction of 275 worksheds under the worksheds-cum-housing scheme for handloom weavers.

**Scheme for Development of 'Pathira
Manal' Island in Alleppey District in Kerala**

7834. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHO-
THAMAN : Will the Minister of PARLIA-
MENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM
be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala have sent to the Union Government for

assistance a scheme for the development of 'Pathira Manal' island in Alleppey District as a fine place of tourist attraction ;

(b) if so, the assistance sought for the project ; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI
H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) No, Sir.

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

**Demonstration by Bank Officials against
Premature Retirement and Ban
on Recruitment**

7835. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
to state :

(a) whether employees of commercial banks demonstrated on or about 20 March, 1986 in the capital against premature retirement and continued ban on recruitment;

(b) if so, the details of their demands; and

(c) the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a), (b) &
(c). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and many of the public sector banks have advised that none of their employees demonstrated on or about 20th March, 1986 in the capital against premature retirement and ban on recruitment. However, Dena Bank and Oriental Bank of Commerce have advised that the employees of their bank demonstrated on 20th March, 1986 against premature retirement and continued ban on recruitment.

**Amount Spent on Modernisation of Sick
Textile Mills under National Textile
Corporation**

7836. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased
to state :

(a) the details of amount spent on modernisation of sick textile mills under