

All building activity in the CPWD and otherwise is carried out after proper soil testing. In the C.P.W.D. Soil testing facilities are available. Private builders get it done through various engineering institutions.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[English]

Abolition of Octroi

1106. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have advised the State Governments for the abolition of Octroi Check posts;

(b) whether Government have received representations from various organisations or State Governments in this regard;

(c) the instructions given by the Centre to the State Governments in this direction; and

(d) the names of the State Governments which have abolished Octroi duty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (c). The Ministry of surface Transport have advised the State Governments to abolish Octroi.

(b) Representations for abolition of Octroi as also for its continuance have been received from some of the State Governments and a number of private organisations and corporations.

(d) A list of States/Union Territories which have abolished Octroi duty is given in the statement given below:

List of States who have abolished Octroi

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Assam
3. Bihar
4. Karnataka
5. Kerala
6. Madhya Pradesh
7. Nagaland
8. Sikkim
9. Tamil Nadu
10. Tripura
11. Himachal Pradesh
12. Manipur
13. Meghalaya
14. Mizoram
15. Arunachal Pradesh
16. Gujarat

Union Territories

1. Chandigarh
2. Dadra & Nagar Haveli
3. Lakshadweep.

Indians in Gulf Countries facing threat of losing their Jobs

1107. SHRI P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of Indians working in Gulf countries are facing the threat of losing their jobs since concerned authorities are not renewing the contracts;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up this matter with the concerned Governments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and further steps, Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). Indian workers are usually employed in the Gulf countries for a contract period of two years. Renewal of