

(SEPUP) was launched with effect from September, 1986. The target fixed for each centre was one case for every 300 population. The Reserve Bank of India has informed that as per the progress report received by them banks have sanctioned 3.21 lakhs loan under this scheme. Thus, the banks were able to sanction a good number of cases under this scheme during the initial period of six months.

SEPUP covers not only youth but persons of other age groups as well, who are otherwise suitable for undertaking the proposed venture. The progress under this scheme is kept under continuous review by Reserve Bank of India.

The Reserve Bank of India has reported that during 1986-87, an amount of Rs. 85.46 crores was disbursed to 2.67 lakh beneficiaries in various States.

Black Money Spent in Marriages

4837. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether lavish expenditure incurred on marriage receptions, at 5-star hotels and clubs comes within the definition of 'Ostentatious expenditure' within the meaning of Section 133 (A) (5) of the Indian Income-Tax Act, 1961;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected in the capital during the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 upto 31.7.1987;

(c) the manner in which these cases were processed and the extent of black money spent/mopped up;

(d) whether Government propose to instruct all 5-Star Hotels and important Clubs to report particulars of the marriage reception hosted involving payment of Rs. 50,000 and above either singly or jointly to

Income-Tax authorities; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and other measures proposed to countenance such spending of ill-gotten wealth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the financial years 1986-87 and 1987-88 (upto 31.7.1987), a total number of 102 cases of ostentatious expenditure including marriage were enquired into where the expenditure incurred was more than Rs. 50,000.

(c) The amount of tax evasion will be known only when the assessments involved are completed and become final.

(d) and (e). Government is fully committed to restrict channelisation of black money into unproductive expenditure. Information regarding spending of unaccounted money is obtained on the basis of selective survey. Whenever specific information is received, action under the Direct Taxes Acts is taken.

Crisis In Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited

4838. DR. B.L. SHAILESH:
SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ:
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA
WADIYAR:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
SHRI SAMHAJI RAO
KAKADE:
SHRI AJAY BISWAS:
SHRI V. SOBHANADRESS-
WARA RAO:
SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA:
SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS:
DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO:
SHRI MEWA SINGH GILL:
DR. SUDHIR ROY:

SHRI R.P. DAS:
SHRI ANANDA PATHAK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire fleet of 24 ships of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited is likely to be immobilised as the Company is in the grip of acute financial crisis;

(b) whether the Company is even unable to buy food and provision for its crew presently stranded on board the Company's ships;

(c) the number of Company's ships at present impounded by foreign countries for non-payment of dues and the steps being taken by Government for the release of the ships;

(d) the financial stake of Government in this company; and

(e) the reasons for the crisis in the Company and the remedial measures Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (e). The financial operation of Scindias have been adversely affected during the last few years and it has incurred considerable losses. As per information readily available, at present 20 of its ships are held up 3 on account of being arrested in foreign ports, 2 on account of being stranded at different ports, 9 awaiting employment and 6 laid up for scrapping.

The Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd. owes to Government approximately Rs. 128 crores as on 2.4.1987 on account of overdue interest, rupee loans, payments made under guarantee obligations, etc.

To alleviate the misery of the crew stranded in foreign ports, the Indian Embassies concerned had been advised to make arrangements for supply of requirements for the subsistence of the crew and also for repatriation where it is necessary, with the cost to be ultimately treated as loan to Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd.

A Notice had been issued under Section 8 of the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986 by Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Limited who are the "designated person" under Section 16 of the concerned Act, to Scindia Steam Navigation company Limited recalling all the dues owed by the Company to Government of India. Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Limited has also appointed a Receiver under Section 9 of the Act and has reconstituted the Board of Directors of Scindias under section 10 of the Act.

Projects of A.P. Cleared by Union Government

4839. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the projects about which government of Andhra Pradesh approached Union Government for clearance and approval during last three years;

(b) the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.