

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. On the other hand, the Delhi Vegetable Oil Traders' Association had in representation stated that the price of mustard oil fixed by the Government might not be workable for consuming centres due to transportation, inter-State sales tax and other expenses.

While fixing the maximum retail selling price of mustard oil at Rs. 10 a kg., including taxes but exclusive of the cost of container, all relevant factors were kept in mind. The Supreme Court has also upheld the validity of the Mustard Oil (Price Control) Order, 1977 of 30-9-1977.

Recovery of Loans advanced by Empire of India, Unit of LIC

4897. **SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the Empire of India Unit, now L.I.C. had loaned about Rs. 4.5 lakhs to one Shri Chattu Ram Bhadani in 1952-53 ;

(b) he has not returned the loan as yet in spite of the Bombay and Patna High Courts orders to do so failing which to attach his properties ;

(c) in pursuance of the Courts order a house in Jhumritelaiya was put on public auction and taken by L.I.C. itself in the year 1965 ;

(d) the courts order has not been implemented till today and neither the said holding is taken possession of by the L.I.C. nor the loan is recovered due to manouevring of the person concerned ;

(e) Shri Chattu Ram and others still continue to reside therein without paying any rent; and

(f) any steps have been taken so far by Government in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL) : (a) A mortgage loan of Rs. 2,40,000 was advanced to Shri Chattu Ram Bhadani, a mica merchant of Jhumritelaiya by Unit : Empire of India in April/May 1950.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In pursuance of the Court's order the property was put on Public Auction and in the absence of outside bidders it was purchased by the LIC itself in the 1966.

(d) The execution proceedings before the Hazaribagh Court initiated by LIC in pursuance of the auction sale were obstructed by the Judgement Debtor by raising various legal grounds. When the order for possession was passed by the Hazaribagh Court, the Judgement Debtor appealed to the Patna High Court. When the appeal had been decided in favour of the LIC in 1974, the Judgement Debtor made it difficult for the LIC to take possession of the property. LIC, therefore, went to Hazaribagh Court with a prayer seeking court help in taking possession. The Court had deputed the Execution Magistrate, the Nazar of the Court along with armed police force. Along with these the Senior Branch Manager and the Assistant Branch Manager of the LIC's Local Branch Office and other LIC staff proceeded in order to take possession of the property on the 29th July 1977, but they had to withdraw in the face of violent obstruction put up by a large group of the Judgement Debtor's men. LIC has once again made a petition to the Hazaribagh Court seeking further Court assistance and orders in the matter. Owing to prolonged execution proceedings the recovery of the loan is still pending.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The LIC is taking steps for moving the Hazaribagh Court for issue of fresh process for delivery of possession of the property. The LIC has also written to the Government of Bihar on 9th December, 1977 for necessary assistance in the matter.

Declaration of Puri and Konark as Tourist Places

4898. **SHRI PADMACHARAN SAMANTASINHERA :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government know Puri and Konark are famous tourist places which attract visitors not only from India but also from foreign countries ;

(b) if so, how many outsiders visit Puri and Konark annually by train and Road; and

(c) when Government propose to declare Puri and Konark as the tourist places?