

(b) No, Sir. FERA directives are statutory in nature and companies wishing to continue their activities in the country have to comply with these directives.

(c) Does not arise.

Temporary S. C. and S. T. Employees in Public Undertakings

815. SHRI B. C. KAMBLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees in each class who are till today temporary in services of public undertakings;

(b) the break-up of these temporary employees mentioned in (a) above as being temporary for (i) 3 years; (ii) 6 years; (iii) 10 years; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to make them permanent and prevent such recurrence?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The relevant information is being collected from the public undertakings and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Effect on Stainless Steel Industry due to lowering of Import Licences

816. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI A. R. BADRINARAYAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the lowering of import replenishment licences for new materials used to produce stainless cutlery and utensils from 75 to 50 per cent has paralysed the stainless steel industry and also has affected exports;

(b) if so, how far this is true; and

(c) what steps are being considered by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). The export of stainless steel cutlery and utensils during the current year (April-August 1978) is worth Rs. 1.27 crores as against Rs. 1.16 crores during the corresponding period of 1977 and hence no adverse effect on exports or industry is established.

(c) Does not arise.

Discussions held with Mr. Orville Freeman

817. SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR GUPTA:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mr. Orville Freeman, a big U.S. businessman had been having a free run of New Delhi during the month of September, October, 1978; and

(b) if so, whether any discussions were held with him by the Government of India and if so, the details and result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Mr. Orville Freeman, who is the Co-chairman of the U.S. Section of the Indo-U.S. Joint Business Council (JBC), visited New Delhi in September, 1978 in connection with the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council. The JBC is a non-official body and the Government of India is not a party to its deliberations. During his visit to New Delhi, Mr. Freeman, along with other members of the JBC, had a meeting with certain officials of the Government of India. The discussions were of a general

nature and covered the economic situation in the country and the Government's policy regarding foreign investment. He also paid a courtesy call on the Prime Minister.

शाहदरा के लिये सुपर बाजार

818. श्री रामजी लाल सुमन : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारित मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या किसी सलाहकार समिति ने यमुना पार कालोनी, शाहदरा में एक नया सुपर बाजार खोलने का निर्णय लिया है ;

(ख) क्या बिना सुपर बाजार के इस क्षेत्र के निवासियों को भारी कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ रहा है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस क्षेत्र में नया सुपर बाजार खोलने के बारे में सरकार की क्या योजना है ; और

(घ) यदि ऐसी कोई योजना नहीं है तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कृष्ण कुमार गोयल) : (क) सुपर बाजार में कोई सलाहकार समिति नहीं है। इसलिये सलाहकार समिति द्वारा शाहदरा कालोनी में एक नया सुपर बाजार खोलने का निर्णय करने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ख) जी हां।

(ग) सुपर बाजार के प्रबंधकों का शाहदरा सहित दिल्ली के सभी भागों में शाखाएं खोलने की कोशिश है बशर्ते इसके लिए कोई उपयुक्त स्थान और सरकारी वित्तीय सहायता उपलब्ध हो।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Purchase of Boeing—747s For Air India

819. SHRI K. MALLANNA :
SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY :
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
REDDY :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have decided to purchase three Boeing 747s for Air India; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) : (a) Government have approved of Air-India proposal for the purchase of three Boeing 747s aircraft.

(b) The policy in regard to purchase of new aircraft is determined by Government keeping in view the programme of operation of air services by Air-India and Indian Airlines. The proposals for the purchase of aircraft received from the Corporation are examined in consultation with the Planning Commission and other appraisal agencies and approval of the Public Investment Board and of the Cabinet is obtained.

Development of Conjeevaram as Tourist Centre

820. SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the historical and cultural attraction of Conjeevaram teeming with fine temples proclaiming our ancient heritage; and

(b) the plans and programmes of the Central Government to develop Conjeevaram in Tamil Nadu as an important tourist Centre?