

Grant of Affiliation to Branch Associations in Defence Accounts Department

4746. SHRI RAMAVTAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any condition for grant of affiliation to branch associations by their respective headquarters in Defence Accounts Department;

(b) whether the Controller of Defence Accounts, Patna is dealing with both the associations without keeping in mind the numerical strength of membership of associations; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to issue instructions to stop dealing with the association not fulfilling the criterion of membership?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Controller of Defence Accounts, Patna has given proportional representation in the Office Council to the representatives of both the Associations functioning in the Office after verification of the minimum prescribed percentage of membership required for the purpose.

(c) Does not arise.

Rejection of Frozen Sea Foods Exported to USA

4747. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India get throughly investigated how the consignment of frozen sea foods and frog legs shipped to foreign countries after certificates of Export Inspection Agency for their purity are rejected at the destination for the occurrence of salmonella;

(b) whether a delegation of Marine Products Export Development Authority had been sent to USA to study the exact position of salmonella in Indian sea foods and frog legs as affecting sales of the above in USA in 1978 or 1979;

(c) whether the delegation has submitted any report about their tours and studies; and

(d) who were the Members of the Delegation and what were the qualifications, if any, of each to understand problems connected with the origin and presence of salmonella?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The matter was got investigated. The main reason for rejection of Indian frog-legs and shrimps in USA after being passed by Export Inspection Agency in India was the difference in quality standards and inspection procedure. While US Food and Drugs Administration was carrying out the Pre-enrichment Test for Salmonella for both frog legs and shrimps the same was not being done in India. In case of frog legs, the pre-enrichment test has since been introduced by Export Inspection Agency in India also. US, FDA has accepted our view point that for shrimps which are to be released in the US market after processing and cooking, pre-enrichment test for salmonella is not essential. In case of decomposition also the quality in standards have been improved so as to bring them in conformity with US FDA standards.

(b) No delegation of MPEDA was sent to USA in 1978. A delegation was sent to USA in 1979.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Members of the Delegation were:—

1. Shri S. Gopalan, Chairman, MPEDA.