

Later, the total quantity of yarn and fibre on board the vessel ascertained after a detailed examination and weighment, was found to be approximately 177 tonnes. It is reported that a firm of surveyors on instruction from the agents of the vessel had conducted the insurance survey but the report is not yet available.

(d) After purchasing the vessel, the purchaser cleared 5 consignments consisting of monocrotophos in damaged condition, calcium carbide in damaged condition, tafetta cloth for umbrellas in damaged and soiled condition, PVC leather cloth and synthetic camphor in damaged condition collectively valued at Rs. 7.40 lakhs on payment of customs duty of Rs. 8.17 Lakhs and redemption fine of Rs. 2.86 Lakhs. On receipt of information that the value of goods declared by the purchaser of the vessel as "synthetic waste (in damaged condition) yarn and fibre" was higher than that estimated by the panel of customs officers who had examined the goods, a number of searches were carried out by the officials of the Bombay Customs, and these resulted in seizure of some incriminating documents. No duty has yet been collected on this synthetic yarn and fibre. Clearance has been withheld pending results of further investigations.

(e) Investigation by the Customs Authorities into the case including the question of fixing the responsibility on the concerned officials, is in progress.

Production of Mica

1692. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantity of mica produced in 1980 so far is lesser than the one fourth of the production in 1968; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the level of the foreign exchange received in 1972 has been shown the same in 1980 by raising the price of mica by 3-4 time?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The production of mica during 1968 was 18265 tonnes, while the production from January to September 1980 is 5811 tonnes.

(b) The year 1980 is still to be closed and no comparison can, therefore, be drawn at this stage regarding foreign exchange received in 1972 and that to be earned in 1980.

Audit objection with regard to payment of Central Excise duty by M/s Pure Drinks (New Delhi)

1693. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the audit objection with regard to the payment of the Central Excise duty for the years 1976-77 and 1978-79 from M/s. Pure Drinks (New Delhi) has been removed;

(b) under what rule and conditions this amount has been refunded;

(c) whether it is a fact that the total amount refunded was more than the amount on which the excise duty was charged;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) if not, what was the actual amount refunded for this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) It is presumed that the reference is to the Receipt Audit under the Comptroller & Auditor General of India.

Two such audit objections were raised with reference to M/s Pure Drinks (New Delhi) Private Limited for the years 1976-77 to 1978-79. One objection, dated 22.7.1979, was withdrawn by the Receipt Audit. The other objection related to the question of inclusion in the assessable value of freight charges for site delivery in Delhi/New Delhi. This objection, which

also formed the subject of a draft paragraph proposed for inclusion in the Report of the Comptroller & Auditor General on Union Government (Civil) Revenue Receipts, was not admitted by the Department.

(b) to (e). No central excise duty has been refunded to the party as a result of withdrawal/non-admission of the above-mentioned Audit objections. However, securities amounting to Rs. 11,30,000/- which had been deposited against bonds in respect of provisional assessments, have been released.

Deposits and advanced by united Bank of India in Bihar and West Bengal

1694. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the deposits and advances of the United Bank of India in Bihar and West Bengal, State-wise;

(b) the deposits and advances of the United Bank of India branches in the districts of Hazaribagh, Giridih and Santhal Pargana;

(c) is it a fact that the said Bank advances in West Bengal are higher than that of Bihar according to ratio of deposits; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take against this attitude of Bank and for its proper advances for the good of Bihar State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) Latest data on deposits and advances of United Bank of India as on the last Friday of December 1979 in Bihar and West Bengal is given below:

State	Deposits	Advances	Rs. lakhs
Bihar	5228	1643	
West Bengal	72576	39019	

(b) As on the same date the deposits and advances of United Bank

of India in the districts of Hazaribagh Giridih and Santhal Parganas were as follows:

District	Deposits	Advances (Rs. lakhs)
Hazaribagh	537	73
Giridih	227	163
Santhal Parganas	9	0.47

(c) and (d) Banks have been asked to review the performance of their branches in districts where their credit dispensation is low and to take necessary steps to augment the flow of credit through more active participations in the District Credit Plans. It has, however, also to be borne in mind that large advances sanctioned by the banks located at Calcutta are actually utilised in adjoining States. On the basis of utilisation of credit, the credit deposit ratio of United Bank of India in Bihar was 43 per cent which does not compare very unfavourably with the corresponding ratio of 45 per cent in West Bengal.

आलूओं के निर्यात पर प्रतिबन्ध

1695. श्री नन्द किशोर शर्मा :
श्री राम लाल राही :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आलू के निर्यात पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाने के कारण अब तक कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा की हानि हुई है तथा आलू के उत्पादन में कितनी कमी आई है; और

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार आलू के निर्यात पर लगे प्रतिबन्ध को हटाने का है ?

वाणिज्य तथा इस्पात व खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी): (क) आलू के निर्यात