

AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). Some trucks with cement bags after having been delivered to the lawful consignees and passed under proper gate passes from Northern Railway cement siding, Shakurbasti, were intercepted by the Delhi Police during the years 1980 and 1981 while being diverted to sources other than the lawful consignees. The trucks were also found having some hand-stitched excess bags of cement. 4 cases have been registered by the Delhi Police. In all 23 persons have so far been arrested in these cases. While in one case 3 persons are facing trial, Police investigations in the other cases are in progress.

Agitation of Taxi and Autorickshaw Drivers

790. SHRI KAMAL NATH:
SHRI N. E. HORO:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether taxi and auto rickshaw drivers in Delhi have been agitating for hike in fares;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether taxi and auto rickshaw drivers have been charging higher fares from the people unauthorised and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). As a result of the increase in POL prices w.e.f. 11-7-81, Delhi Administration announced proportionate increase in the fares and proportionate increase in the fares 13-7-81. Not satisfied with the same, the taxi and autorickshaw drivers started agitating for further rise in fare.

(c) and (d). The Administration have intimated that some complaints of

over-charging were received. Action was taken. The driving licence of two autorickshaw drivers were suspended. The Show cause notice was issued in 13 cases u/s 60 of the Motor Vehicles Act for suspension/cancellation of permit for overcharging by auto rickshaw drivers.

Sino-Indian Talks

791. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) outcome of Sino-Indian talks that took place at the foreign ministers level in last week of June;

(b) whether border issue discussed in the talks, and if yes, the outcome thereof; and

(c) whether any meeting of officials of the two countries is fixed up in Beijing in September to discuss the border issue?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Talks were held between the Foreign Minister of China and myself in the last week of June. They were detailed and both sides addressed specific issues. The atmosphere was cordial and facilitated a frank exchange of views.

The talks provided a clearer understanding of each other's views in bilateral, regional and international issues. While there was differences between the two sides, there was also agreement on some issue. This was the first substantive meeting of this level on Indian soil between Indian and Chinese leaders after a lapse of 20 years and both sides have agreed that the dialogue should continue.

The Government of India has followed a policy of seeking to normalise relations with China, and has taken initiatives in this direction. We believe this visit marks another step in the process. We do not underestimate the difficulties that we face, but it is our endeavour to work towards a permanent solution of our problems with