

The Government of India assistance is matched by the concerned State Governments.

**Handicrafts:** Weaker Sections namely, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes generally constitute the major portion of Artisans Community in the handicraft sector. The office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) has taken up several developmental schemes and have covered Artisans class as a whole. No special component plan has been prepared separately for the handicraft sector since all the development schemes cover the Scheduled Castes. It is not possible therefore to identify actual expenditure for Scheduled Castes separately in the handicraft sector.

**Sericulture:** Weaker Sections namely Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes constitute nearly 30 per cent of the sericulture families in the country as a whole. It is not possible to give any break-up of expenditure for Scheduled Castes separately as all the schemes for the development of sericulture industry in the country cover all the sections of the society.

In so far as Department of Commerce is concerned, the position is that barring a few Commodity Boards looking after the Plantation crops namely, tea, coffee, rubber and cardamom, all other organisations including the Marine Products Development Authority are primarily concerned with exports. All the Commodity Boards are implementing various developmental schemes for the benefit of the growers producing these plantation crops. Some of these growers may fall under the category of Scheduled Castes availing the assistance from the Commodity Boards but it is not possible to quantify the actual amount earmarked/spent for the development of Scheduled Castes.

#### **Hijacking of Alitalia Jumbo Jet on Delhi-Bangkok Flight**

1511. SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact an Alitalia jumbo jet on a scheduled Delhi-Bangkok

flight was hijacked on 30th June, 1982 by a Sri Lankan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken so far in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Alitalia B-747 Combi Boeing on Rome-New Delhi-Bangkok-Hong Kong-Tokyo flight took off from Palam airport at 11.11 P.M. on 29th June, 1982 with 261 persons on board including 18 crew. 34 passengers including 15 foreigners boarded the aircraft at Delhi. The Traffic Control, Bangkok informed on 30th June, 1982 that the said aircraft landed after hijack by a Sri Lankan, Sepala Ekanayaka, aged 33. He had boarded the aircraft at Delhi. The hijacking was terminated on 1st July, 1982 at Bangkok. According to reports, the hijacker was paid a ransom US dollar 300,000 and his wife and son who were in Rome were re-united with him at his request. The Delhi Police have registered a case and are investigating. Further details as to how and from where he managed to carry explosives will be known after investigations are completed.

#### **Probe in respect of NationalISED Indian Bank by Kenya Government**

1512. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a nationalised Indian Bank is being probed by the Kenya Government for wrong doings;

(b) if so, what are the specific charges against this Bank and the findings of the Kenya Government probe;

(c) whether the Indian Government have carried out any investigation on the charges and if so, the results thereof and the action thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (d). The Central Bank of Kenya had in the normal course of its duties and functions

carried out inspection of the branches of the Indian banks operating in Kenya. The concerned banks have been advised to take appropriate action at their end. This is in accordance with the procedures generally followed in these matters. The question of Government of India carrying out any investigations into these matters does not arise.

#### Store Keepers in Army Ordnance Corps

1513. SHRI SHEO SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the Expert Classification Committee was instituted and when did it submit its report to Government regarding Storekeepers in the Army Ordnance Corps;

(b) by what time its recommendations will be implemented in respect of non-Industrial employees;

(c) what was the outcome of the discussions held on 28th December, 1981 with the representatives of the All India Association of Storekeeping staff of Army Ordnance Corps;

(d) what are their main demands and Government's stand on each of them; and

(e) by what time Government propose to finalise the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) The Expert Classification Committee was instituted on 3-10-74. It submitted its Report relating to non-industrial jobs which include the Storekeeping personnel in May, 1979.

(b) This is under consideration.

(c) A Committee has been set up to examine the cadre structure of the Storekeeping personnel.

(d) The position is indicated in the attached statement.

(e) The Government decision will be taken at the earliest opportunity.

#### Statement

*The main demands and the position in respect of each demand submitted by the Storekeepers in Army Ordnance Corps*

#### 1. Promotional Avenues of Storekeeping Staff of ACC

The matter is under consideration.

#### 2. Revision of Pay Structure of Storekeeping Staff of AOC

The matter is under consideration.

#### 3. Direct Recruitment of Ordnance Officers Civilian (Stores)

The demand is for total abolition of direct recruitment to Group 'B' posts. At present the feeder grade for promotion to Group 'B' level is not adequate to provide for 100 per cent promotion. It is also not administratively desirable to stop direct recruitment altogether.

#### 4. Relaxation in Service Period of Senior Store Superintendent for Promotion to Ordnance Officer Civilian (Stores)

All the vacancies earmarked for departmental promotees have been filled by promotion. As such, the question of relaxing the service period for promotion does not arise.

#### Enquiry into Smuggling of Explosives in Alitalia Jumbo Jet Flown from Palam Airport

1514. SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have instituted an inquiry into the smuggling of explosives by a Sri Lankan who had hijacked Alitalia Jumbo Jet, despite the security checks at Palam airport;

(b) if so, the details of the findings; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.