

Committee for Revision of DA for Public Sector Employees

980. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Committee to go into entire question of the upward revision of the D.A. for the employees and workers of the Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) and (b). A suggestion for setting up of a Tripartite Committee to go into the question of DA formula for the public sector undertakings is receiving attention of the Government.

Misuse of Facility of Duty Free Imports

981. SHRI MATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some unscrupulous traders are misusing the facility for duty free imports for export production selling some of the important raw materials in the domestic market at fabulous prices;

(b) if so, whether it has resulted in the huge drain of foreign exchange without a commensurate return in foreign exchange earnings;

(c) if so, the details of the foreign exchange spent and earned on this facility; and

(d) whether Government propose to re-examine the existing facility of advance duty-free imports available to exporters in the light of such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b). Some reports regarding the misuse of the duty free facility by a few advance licence holders have been received by Government. These cases are under investigation. Action has also been taken to tighten up the procedures under this Scheme with a view to avoid its misuse.

(c) During 1981-82 advance licences on duty-free basis have been issued for a value of Rs. 310.18 crores. Against the above advance licences, the corresponding f.o.b. value of export obligation amounts to Rs. 845.87 crores.

(d) The working of the Import and Export policies are reviewed every year and, as part of this exercise for the formulation of the policies for 1983-84, the working of this scheme is also being reviewed.

Increase in Losing Public Sectors

982. SHRI R. R. BHOLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that in the Union Finance Ministry it was found that the losing public sectors have risen from 69 & 86 in 1978-79 and that with investment of Rs. 24,000 crores, the sectors failed to achieve its object; and

(b) is it a fact that in the State sectors of public sector undertakings the loss has risen from 22crores to 2200 crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) Whereas 69 out of a total of 159 operating enterprises incurred losses in 1978-79, 78 out of a total of 187 operating enterprises suffered losses in 1981-82. However, judged by the overall profitability, the public sector undertakings have shown vast improvement in their performance. From the overall profit before tax of Rs. 185 crores in 1978-79, it has gone up to Rs. 1074 crores in 1981-82, thus registering almost