

(a) whether a comprehensive review has been taken by the Defence Ministry on how best to plug the leakage of sensitive information relating to defence arms and equipments ;

(b) if so, whether any special steps have been taken so far ;

(c) if so, the details of the same ;

(d) how many persons in the recent espionage case have been held responsible and punished ; and

(e) the kind of punishment given to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) to (c). Review of arrangements for safeguarding security of information is a constant and ongoing exercise. Instructions are issued from time to time based on the experience of existing instructions. It is not considered desirable to disclose details.

(d) and (e). During November 1983, the information given by a serving officer led to the arrest of three retired defence personnel.

Proceedings under the Official Secrets Act and the Indian Penal Code have been initiated in a Court of Law against them.

Observance of "Demands Day" by Opposition Parties

3456. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that 18 Opposition parties observed "Demands Day" on 13 February, 1984 throughout the country by holding demonstrations and public meetings ;

(b) whether such a demonstration and public meeting was held in New Delhi at Boat Club and Gole Methi Chowk on 13 February, 1984 ;

(c) if so, their demands ;

(d) the Government's reaction thereto ; and

(e) the steps taken to examine the demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

मिटको को स्वतंत्र निगम के रूप में बदला जाना

3457. श्री रीतलाल प्रसाद वर्मा : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मिटको को एक स्वतंत्र निगम के रूप में परिवर्तित किया जायेगा और उसे अपने कार्य-कलापों में विविधता लाने और व्यापार का बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से स्वतंत्र रूप में विकसित होने का अवसर प्रदान किया जायेगा ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में और पूर्ति विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री निहार रजन लास्कर) (क) तथा (ख) फिलहाल मिटको एम०एम०टी०सी० की सहायक कंपनी है तथा यदि उसके कार्यचालन से ऐसा आवश्यक हो जाये तो उसके दर्जे में परिवर्तन करने पर विचार किया जायेगा ।

Re-payment of Loans to Small Creditors by Swadeshi Cotton Mill

3458. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Swadeshi Cotton Mill was taken over by National Textile Corporation under instruction from Government ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the loans due from the Mill have not been paid to the creditors, particularly the small investors ; and

(c) the steps being taken to get the repay-