

विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जाज) : (क) ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Pending Cases against Landless Tribals and Scheduled Castes in various Courts in Tripura

2889. SHRI BIREN DUTTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Police cases against landless Tribal people and landless Scheduled Castes people are pending in various courts in Tripura from 1962 to March 1971 ;

(b) whether the Lt. Governor of Tripura gave assurance that the cases will be withdrawn ; and

(c) if so, the further action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). The Government of Tripura have intimated that the requisite information is being collected. It will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

Coordinating Committee for Development of Eastern States

2890. SHRI BIREN DUTTA :
SHRI M. M. JOSEPH :
SHRI DEVINDER SINGH
GARCHA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme to form Coordinating Committee for the development of Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya areas has been accepted by the Government of India ;

(b) if so, the composition and terms of reference of the Committee ;

(c) whether it will come into existence before the Statehood Bill for Tripura and Manipur is introduced ; and

(d) if so, the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (d). In the context of granting Statehood to Manipur, Tripura and Meghalaya, Government are considering the question of having a coordinating agency for the entire North-Eastern region. The details are being worked out. At this stage it is not possible to indicate the precise nature of the legislation for this purpose.

रतलाम में कताई मिल स्थापित किया जाना

28१1. श्री लक्ष्मीनारायण पंडि : क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने रतलाम में एक कताई मिल स्थापित करने हेतु लाइसेंस देने के संबंध में केन्द्रीय सरकार से अनुरोध किया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बंध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जाज) : (क) और (ख). वर्ष 1965 में मंसस रतलाम को आपरेटिव जवाहर मैमोरियल स्पिनिंग मिल्स, रतलाम से रतलाम में कताई मिल की स्थापना हेतु लाइसेंस के लिए एक आवेदन-पत्र प्राप्त हुआ था। घन की अप्राप्तता के कारण इसे अस्वीकार कर दिया गया।

Collection of Cess on Tea in Nilgiri District

2892. SHRI J. M. GOWDER : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of Cess on Tea collected from the Nilgiri District in Tamil Nadu in the past three years ;

(b) the manner in which the cess collected has been utilised ;

(c) whether any procedure has been drawn for the utilisation of the proceeds of the cess in the areas of collections and for the benefit of the industry in general and

for the welfare of the labour in particular ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The amount of cess collected from the Nilgiri district in Tamil Nadu is given below :

1968-69	Rs. 12,24,566
1969-70	Rs. 13,72,713
1970-71	Rs. 13,84,752

(b) Cess on Tea is collected by Central Excise Department and proceeds thereof are credited to consolidated Fund of India after deducting collection charges at the rate of half per cent. Thereafter Central Government releases such sums of money as it thinks fit with a view to enabling Tea Board to meet expenses incurred by them for carrying out functions enumerated in the Tea Act.

(c) and (d). In keeping with functions of the Board as enumerated in the Tea Act procedures have been laid down in the Tea Rules 1954 for submission of Budget Estimates under various stipulated heads of expenditure like tea development, promotion of tea in India and abroad, research, labour welfare etc. Funds are allocated on the basis of the overall needs of the Tea Board in relation to priority of different aspects of tea industry requiring immediate attention including labour welfare measures not covered by Plantation Labour Act.

New Building for P. and T. Head Office at Irinjalakkuda (Kerala)

2893. **SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute lack of space in the present Posts and Telegraphs Head Office Irinjalakkuda, Kerala ;

(b) whether a plan for construction of new building was finalised by the Central Architect years back ; and

(c) the reasons for delay in the construction of new building ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) Yes. A portion of the post office has

therefore been shifted to a nearby building which was taken on rent in 1969 in an attempt to solve this problem. The present shortage is about 1100 sq ft.

(b) Only a rough layout plan showing the proposed extension of the building on the site has been received from the Architect in January, 1970 by the Postmaster General, Trivandrum. Detailed plans and preliminary drawings are still under preparation.

(c) The delay is due to several projects having to be attended to at the same time. This project has, however, been given a higher priority and is being expedited.

Export of Agar from Manipur

2894. **SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned annually from the sale of Manipur Agar to foreign countries ;

(b) the countries buying Agar from Manipur ; and

(c) the agencies appointed for such trade ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). State-wise Export Statistics are not maintained.

Song and Drama Division Unit Imphal

2895. **SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Imphal Unit of the Song and Drama Division of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry has been equipped with a full-fledged Drama Troupe ;

(b) if so, since when and the strength and paraphernalia thereof ; and

(c) if not, when such a troupe is likely to be introduced ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) to (c). The Imphal Unit of Song and Drama Division is established under Border Publicity Scheme which gives