

Gold, precious stones, silver, wrist watches, synthetic fabrics and yarn, hashish and other goods totally valued at Rs. 218 lakhs (approximately) were seized by the Customs authorities at various airports during the period January to October, 1972.

(c) 59 persons were arrested in this regard.

Implementation of Service Rules Drafted by Shri Ram Centre for Industrial Relations for I.T.D.C.

5459. SHRI D. K. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5872 on the 12th May, 1972 and state:

(a) whether India Tourism Development Corporation has implemented the Service Rules drafted by the Shri Ram Centre for Industrial Relations for Corporation's Employees;

(b) if so, whether the Corporation has taken the Union of concerned employees into confidence before their implementation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) The service rules drafted by the Shri Ram Centre for Industrial Relations have not been found wholly adequate to meet the needs of the Corporation. Accordingly after taking into consideration the draft submitted by the Centre and the rules and regulations of other Public Sector Corporations, a fresh set of service rules have been drafted and finalised for implementation in the Corporation.

(b) and (c). It is necessary to consult the unions in respect of matters specified in the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946. For this purpose separate Standing

Orders have been framed and are being forwarded to the Certifying Officer as stipulated in the Act, who will take necessary action to consult the Unions.

Purchase of Wholesale Tea from Market by U.S.S.R.

5460. SHRI D. K. PANDA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet Union has offered to purchase the entire stock of tea from the market; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the offer?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Problem to West Bengal Tea Industries

5461 SHRI D. K. PANDA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether West Bengal tea industry is facing a host of problems as referred to in the news report published in the *Hindustan Standard* (Calcutta) dated the 9th November, 1972; and

(b) if so, what concrete steps Government intend to take to put an end to these problems?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The news report published in *Hindustan Standard* does sum up more or less correctly problems from which tea industry in West Bengal more particularly in, Darjeeling is reported to be suffering.

(b) The problems of the tea industry are constantly under review of the Government.