

Prime Minister's suggestion regarding Enforcement of Prohibition on Pay Day

845. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have considered the suggestion given by the Prime Minister in the Governors' Conference that prohibition should be enforced on the pay day and that wine shops should not be opened near Universities, Colleges and factories; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). The Central Government has been uniformly advocating a policy of Prohibition. The States have been specifically requested not to locate liquor shops near Schools, Colleges, highways, sacred places, and congested areas particularly those inhabited by labourers and poorer classes. They have also been requested to observe the pay day as dry day.

Visit by a Delegation from G.D.R.

846. SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a three man Delegation from G.D.R. visited India during January, 1973; and

(b) if so, the nature of discussions held and the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delegation visited India primarily to sign an Agreement on cultural co-operation between India and the G.D.R., the text of which had been agreed to by the Governments of both the countries prior to the visit of the delegation. The Agreement was signed in New Delhi on the 15th January, 1973 and provides for co-operation in the fields of education, culture, science, sports public health mass media through exchange of professors, experts in science and technology, artists and dance troupes, exchange of books and publications, films, documentaries and radio and television programmes, award of scholarships to each other's nationals, visit of tourists to each other's country, etc.

Increase in number of Disabled and Handicapped Persons

847. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether there has been an increase in the population of disabled and handicapped people in the country; and

(b) the steps being taken to provide them with proper medical relief, employment and rehabilitation facilities etc.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Although no dependable comparative data are available, it is believed that the number of handicapped persons is increasing.

(b) The following major steps have been taken by the Government of India:-

(i) The All-India Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Bombay and the Rehabilitation Centre

in the Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi provide medical rehabilitation.

- (ii) A scheme for the training of physio-therapists, occupational-therapists and prosthetic technicians has been sponsored.
- (iii) Eleven special employment exchanges assist physically handicapped persons in securing suitable employment.
- (j) Four Vocational Rehabilitation Centres assess their work potential.
- (v) Some workshops run by voluntary organisations have been provided financial assistance.
- (vi) A Sheltered Workshop functions as part of the National Centre for the Blind.

Import of Marine Diesel Engines

848. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the owners of sailing vessels and fishing mechanised boats have requested specifically for the import of Marine Diesel engines; and
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE):
(a) Occasional requests or import of marine diesel engines for fishing boats are received from time to time.

(b) Import of marine diesel engines is governed by the Import Trade Con-

trol Policy. According to the import policy laid down for April, 1972, to March, 1973, actual users will be permitted to import marine diesel engines above 400 H.P. in consultation with the Directorate General of Technical Development. The engines required for mechanised boats are generally in the horse power range of 20 to 100 and these engines are being manufactured in the country.

Utilisation of Funds allocated for Slum Clearance Schemes

849. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHERIEF: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of States have not been able to utilise even a fraction of Rs. 5 crore earmarked by the Central Government for Slum Improvement Scheme in 1971-72; and

(b) if so, the names of the States which have not utilised the allocated money and the reasons advanced by them for not utilizing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) and (b). The old Scheme of Slum Clearance/Improvement is in the State sector and no funds were earmarked from the Centre in 1971-72. However, during 1972-73 the new Central Scheme of Environmental Improvement in Slum Areas was made applicable to 11 cities with a population of not less than 8 lakhs each. Under this Scheme, projects worth Rs. 1471.13 lakhs have been approved and an amount of Rs. 833.87 lakhs released.

Appeal for help to save tiger from Extinction

850. SHRI PILOO MODY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to a statement made by Prince Bernhard of the