

Coal Supplies to Bangladesh

8280. SHRI RAM BHAGAT
PASWAN:

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal supplies to Bangladesh under commitment have been hampered due to shortage; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Supplies of coal to Bangladesh have been less than the commitments not only due to shortage of coal within the country but also because of difficulties in movement of coal from pit-head to points of loading. With a view to accelerate the pace of supplies of coal, arrangements for movement by ships nominated by Bangladesh, in addition to movement by barges, trucks and rail, are being made.

Misappropriation of Government Money in Cochin Customs Treasury

8281. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any case relating to embezzlement or misappropriation of Government money in Cochin Customs Treasury;

(b) if so, the action taken against the concerned cashier indicating date of suspension from service, date of service of charge sheets, date of institution of enquiry and number of sittings of the enquiry held so far;

(c) whether there is any delay in the finalisation of the case; and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) who are the officers responsible for such delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The concerned cashier was placed under suspension with effect from 23rd October, 1969; the charge-sheet was issued on 4th August, 1972 and it had to be re-issued on 18th March, 1974; the Enquiry Officer was appointed on 25th August, 1972. He fixed the dates of enquiry thrice.

(c) and (d). The matter is being looked into and the information will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Seizure of smuggled Goods near Rajkot

8282. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a big haul of smuggled goods was unearthed by the Customs Authority near Rajkot in Gujarat on the 19th February, 1974;

(b) the break-up of the contraband articles seized; and

(c) what action has been taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). On 19th February, 1974, officers of the Customs division apprehended a truck near Rajkot and found 31 packages of synthetic fabrics of foreign origin valued at about Rs. 5 lakhs concealed under 47 packages of indigenous cotton printed sarees valued at about Rs. 3 lakhs. All these goods along with truck valued at about Rs. 55,000 have been seized.

(c) 4 persons have so far been arrested in this connection who were