

(c) whether it will hold in minimising the price differential for supplies channelised through the Small Scale Industries Corporation and stockyards of main producers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) to (c). Presumably the reference is to the Study Group which examined the question of margin for stockholding by the State Small Scale Industries Corporations and sale of iron and steel materials by these Corporations at prices at which the steel plants sell these materials. A final decision on the Study Group's report has not yet been taken. The main recommendation of the Study Group are indicated in the attached statement.

Statement

The main recommendations made by the Study Group are as follows:—

(a) The price equalisation scheme should cover all categories of prime steel and pig iron and should not exclude the categories whose prices are now allowed to float to market levels.

(b) The margin for SSICs may be calculated on the basis of Rs. 30.00 per tonne plus 6 per cent of the value thereof. In case of nine States, viz. Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, Manipur, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Kerala and Uttar Pradesh an additional margin at Rs. 10.00 per tonne may be allowed.

(c) The margin for producers' stockyards may be fixed on the basis of Rs. 25.00 per tonne plus 5 per cent of the value thereof.

(d) The margin for handling pig iron may be fixed at Rs. 50.00 per tonne both for the SSICs and the producers' stockyards.

(e) There should not be any difference between the JPC Prices

and the selling prices of SSICs and producers' stockyards.

(f) Equalisation Fund may be created by JPC for payment to SSICs on account of their margin for handling operations. The producers may be reimbursed through the mechanism of retention price fixation.

(g) Payment to the SSICs may be made periodically (say, once a month) on the basis of producers' invoices which indicate both tonnage and value of materials supplied.

(h) The requisite contribution to the proposed Equalisation Fund works out to Rs. 10.00 per tonne on all categories of mild steel, including defectives and cuttings, and pig iron.

(i) If and when steel materials for compact group industries are routed through SSICs, a review of the calculations about the quantum of contribution will be necessary.

बलुचिस्तान में पाकिस्तानी गोलाबारी की संयुक्त राष्ट्र द्वारा जांच के सम्बन्ध में अफगानिस्तान का प्रस्ताव

481. श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बनाने को तैयार करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अफगानिस्तान ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र मंत्र कं महामांचिव तथा मदस्य देशों का पाकिस्तान द्वारा बलुचिस्तान पर की गई गोलाबारी में उत्पन्न स्थिति पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ द्वारा जांच करवाने के लिए एक जापान दिया है , और

(ख) यदि हा. तो इस पर भारत सरकार की क्या प्रतिनिध्या है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री कृष्णपाल बाल): (क) जी हां। अफगानिस्तान की सरकार ने संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ के महासचिव को एक

लिखित सूचना दी है जिसमें संयुक्त राष्ट्र से एक मिशन बर्लिन, जर्मनी के जाने का अनुरोध किया है जो पाकिस्तानी सशस्त्र सेना द्वारा की गई बमबारी की संयुक्त स्थिति का मानवीय एवं मानव गरिमा की सुरक्षा के दृष्टिकोण से मूल्यांकन करे।

(ख) ऐसे मामलों के बारे में सरकार का मत मुबिहित है। मानव गरिमा की सुरक्षा के लिए किये गए सभी प्रयत्नों का हम समर्थन करते हैं और हमें विश्वास है कि ऐसी समस्याएँ मानवीय दृष्टिकोण एवं सम्बद्ध दलों में शांतिपूर्ण बातचीत से ही सबसे अच्छी तरह निपटाई जा सकती हैं।

Shifting of Regional Passport Office to Kerala

482. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the difficulties experienced in shifting the Regional Passport Office to Kerala which has already been decided; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to overcome these difficulties?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) and (b). The Regional Passport Office, Kerala, started functioning as a separate unit in Madras from 30th March 1974. Prior to this, in March 1974, the Kerala State Government was approached with a view to acquiring adequate office space of approximately 8000 to 10000 sq. ft. at Ernakulam, the location chosen by the Government of Kerala for the Regional Passport Office, Kerala. A building known as the "South Bus Stand Building", being constructed by the Cochin Corporation was inspected by an officer of the Ministry in April 1974 on the recommendation of the District Collector, Ernakulam. The building was again inspected in May 1974, when it was decided that

the first and second floor could be necessary for the Regional Passport Office. This was communicated to the Cochin Corporation. The Commissioner, Cochin Corporation, was also advised by telegram on the 17th July 1974, that the Government of India had agreed to the rental quoted by the Corporation.

However, press reports appearing around the end of August 1974, indicated that the Cochin Corporation had decided not to rent the building for this purpose. The matter was immediately taken up with the Kerala Government seeking their intervention in ensuring that the building was made available for the Regional Passport Office since the Central Government had already communicated their agreement to all the terms and conditions indicated by the Corporation.

There are no buildings readily available in Ernakulam with an area of 8000 to 10000 sq. ft. to accommodate the Regional Passport Office. It is understood that some private buildings under construction might be able to provide this area on completion. The help of the State Government and the Cochin Chamber of Commerce has been sought in finding adequate and suitable accommodation.

Production of Advanced Version of Gnat Fighter

483. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the advanced version of the jet fighter, Gnat is ready and is test flown;

(b) if so, the results of the tests and the time by which large scale production of this advanced version is expected to be started; and

(c) what progress has been made in the efforts of the Government to find some foreign markets for the type of aircraft and the outlines of further steps the Government propose to take in that direction?