

are provided to agents for procuring new business —

- (i) Bonus commission.
- (ii) Gratuity and free term insurance benefits.
- (iii) Membership of the Agent's Club at different levels, which entitle the agents to such privileges and fringe benefits as office allowance, reimbursement of telephone charges, conveyance facilities on special terms and sales promotional gift items
- (iv) Competition prizes

Right of patent by Tea Board for producing 'Instant Tea'

5488 SHRI R. N. BARMAN Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Tea Board along with University of Calcutta holds the right of a patent for producing "instant tea";

(b) if so, what progress has so far been made for popularising the patent and what steps have been taken for setting up research laboratories at the tea producing centres at Assam, West Bengal and Nilgiri.

(c) whether any such laboratory has been approved in West Bengal, and

(d) if so, the broad particulars thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) Steps have been taken for the setting up of a Pilot Plant at the Tocklai Experimental Station for further trial of the patented method. After the Pilot Plant studies are successful the question of popularising the method and its commercial exploitation will arise. Further none of the

Research Institutions located in other tea growing areas possess the basic facilities required for such research.

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise.

Central Assistance to Madhya Pradesh for providing Tourist facilities

5489 SHRI BHAGJ RATH BHANWAR Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government have asked for financial assistance from the Centre for the purpose of developing communication, transportation and accommodation facilities to be provided to the tourists in the State; and

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be given to the State Government for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) and (b) Proposals relating to the development of camping sites at Khajuraho and Dewas at an estimated cost of Rs 2.75 lakhs were received in the Department of Tourism from the State Government for execution during 1973-74. Due to constraint on resources necessitating re-fixation of priorities, these proposals could not be considered under the programme of the Department of Tourism.

Conversion of Handloom Board into a Statutory Board

5490 SHRI DHAMANKAR Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether an All-India Handloom Board is proposed to be converted into a statutory body and the handloom weavers would be brought within the co-operative field;