

read with Rule 74 of the Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957.

**Paramount Engineering Works,
Lucknow**

7526. SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 162 on 28th February, 1975 regarding issue of licences/release orders to Paramount Engineering Works and state:

(a) the basis on which licences were granted to Paramount Engineering Works, Lucknow;

(b) whether capacity of the firm to utilise imported material was ensured before granting licences, if so, in what way;

(c) whether utilisation certificates, if produced, by the firm, have ever been verified; and

(d) action taken against the firm in regard to these import licences?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (d) The licences were issued on the basis of consumption of imported material as certified by a Chartered Accountant. As soon as it was noticed that further verification was necessary, allocation of material against the release orders, was withheld pending enquiries, which are in progress.

Smuggling and Foreign Exchange Rackets

7527. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the brains and financiers behind the smuggling racket have still not been apprehended;

(b) whether U.K. Home Officer repeatedly informed Government of India the names of travel agencies who were acting as agents of the foreign exchange racketeers and if so, what action was taken thereon; and

(c) whether Government are aware that India has become the Asian headquarters of drugs traffic and Mafia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) 886 persons have been ordered to be detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974. However, some persons against whom detention orders have been issued are still absconding.

(b) Information furnished by the British High Commission referred to suspected involvement of some travel agents in arranging illicit immigration into U.K., but there was no reference to their alleged involvement in any foreign exchange racket.

(c) The Government have no such information.

**Agency to Maintain Quality Control of
Food Items Sold by I.T.D.C. Hotels**

7528. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Manager and the Catering-in-charge of the Janpath Hotel, an ITDC enterprise, have recently been awarded jail term and fine for selling adulterated curd;

(b) if so, whether the ITDC has not yet developed any internal agency which can maintain a quality control of food items that are sold by these Government hotels; and

(c) if such an organisation is already there, in what way the sale of unadulterated curd had gone unnoticed and what steps are being proposed to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) The ex-Manager of Janpath Hotel and Kitchen Supervisor have been convicted by the Metropolitan Magistrate with simple imprisonment and fine on the charge of selling adulterated curd on the conclusion of the prosecution launched by the New Delhi Municipal Committee during 1970. An appeal has been filed in the Session Court, and the matter is sub-judice.

(b) and (c): The hotels run by India Tourism Development Corporation procure all articles from manufacturers, wholesale