

Loans to Hindustan Steel Ltd.

893. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans taken from the Central Government by Hindustan Steel Ltd. till 30th June, 1962;

(b) the rate of interest payable on these loans; and

(c) the date from which interest on these loans is being paid?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) Rs. 357.10 crores.

(b) 5 per cent per annum.

(c) Interest liability commences from 1st April 1962.

Seizure of Gold

894. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contraband gold estimated at Rs. 2,60,000 was seized by the Bombay Customs Authority from an Indian Cargo Ship called 'Sardar Patel' on the 16th June, 1962;

(b) if so, the names of the personnel involved in this smuggling; and

(c) the action taken by Government against those smugglers?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) to (c). 2,000 tolas of gold valued at Rs. 2,80,000 approximately was seized by the Bombay Customs from the vessel "M.V. Sardar Patel" on the 16th June, 1962. The gold was stitched inside a cotton jacket, which was found in the blower situated in hatch No. 3 of the vessel. The gold was unclaimed. Further investigation is in progress.

1490 (a) LSD—4.

Scheduled Tribes of West Bengal

895. { Dr. P. N. Khan;
Shri Subodh Hansda;
Shri S. C. Samanta;
Shri Sarkar Murmu:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are centrally sponsored schemes for the economic development and other all-round development of Scheduled Tribes of West Bengal;

(b) if so, what are those specific schemes;

(c) what is the total amount set apart from Central Sector for such schemes for West Bengal for the Third Plan; and

(d) which schemes are given top priority for their economic development?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). A statement containing the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 83].

(d) Economic development of the Scheduled Tribes has priority in the centrally sponsored programme. The schemes are:

(i) Tribal Development Blocks; and

(ii) Co-operation including Forest Co-operative and Marketing-cum-Consumers' Co-operative societies.

As Tribal Development Blocks are meant for areas of high concentration of tribal population, and no area in West Bengal has the prescribed percentage i.e. 66½ of the general population, no Tribal Development Block has been allotted to West Bengal.