

and debited all amount against one Goods Clerks of Idgah Station; and

(e) the details of the case and the steps taken to recover the undercharges?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes; but the amount was more than Rupees Thirty thousand.

(b) A sum of Rs. 27,210/- is still outstanding against Idgah station on this account.

(c) It is correct that these undercharges pertain to consignments of 'Iron Rails' booked as 'Iron Scrap' or 'Rail Scrap' but a definite case of cheating cannot be established.

(d) It is not correct that Railways have done nothing to recover the undercharges from the traders as an amount of Rs. 16,575/- has already been recovered from the traders and efforts for further recovery are continuing. Where staff fail to collect undercharges due at the time of delivery, it is the normal and correct practice to debit the undercharges when brought to notice against staff who failed to make recovery as the unrealised undercharges are due to their failure. The Goods Shed Staff, however, induce the traders to pay up such undercharges and in case they fail they have to accept liability.

(e) As explained in answer to part (c) above, the undercharges pertain to consignments of 'Iron Rails' booked as 'Iron Scrap' or 'Rail Scrap'. Although, efforts have been made by Railway, by personal contact and service of notices, for recovery of the undercharges still unrealized, the response from the traders has not been encouraging.

Scholarships to Low-income Group Students in Uttar Pradesh

5096. **SHRI VISHWA NATH PANDEY:** Will the Minister of LAW

AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students in Uttar Pradesh granted Low-Income Group Scholarships by the Central Government during 1967-68;

(b) the total amount thereof;

(c) the income group of guardians of students who were granted such Scholarships; and

(d) the income limit stressed by the Government of Uttar Pradesh in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI MUTHYAL RAO): (a) to (d). Attention is invited to the reply given to unstarred question No. 3461 on 18-3-69 and the assurance fulfilled on 3-6-69.

Loan to Madras Rubber Factory Ltd. Madras

5097. **SHRI BABURAO PATEL:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a loan of Rs. 75 lakhs has been given to the Madras Rubber Factory Ltd., Madras, by the United States Government;

(b) if so, the terms and purpose of the loan and whether the U.S. Government has acquired any controlling interest in the factory;

(c) the names of other industries to which the U.S. Government has given loans, with particulars of the amounts given in each case and the terms of the loans and whether any controlling interest has been acquired by the U.S. Government in each case; and

(d) whether such loans by a foreign Government require the prior sanction of the Government of India and, if so, on what basis the sanction is given?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Funds available from the Cooley Loan are intended for meeting rupee expenditure on acquisition of additional land, construction of buildings, payment of duty as also the installation of plant and machinery. The repayment of loan is envisaged in fourteen approximately equal Semi-annual instalments, the first instalment to be due and payable in three years from the date of first disbursement. The loan carries an interest of 8 per cent per annum.

c) and (d). (i) *Cooley Loans*: A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-1855;69*]. The rate of interest on these loans has varied between 6 and 8 per cent in keeping with the rate of interest on the loans charged by other Financial Institutions in India from time to time. Currently this rate is 8 per cent. The repayment period of loans generally varies between 8 to 12 years depending on purpose, industry for which the loan is granted. The United States Government does not acquire any controlling interest by giving such loans to any company.

The Government of India generally convey their 'no objection' to loans in such cases where the enterprise has obtained the necessary governmental clearances such as an industrial licence, approval to foreign collaboration terms and sanction for issue of capital.

(ii) US EXIM BANK AND AID LOANS: The details are furnished at statement II & III respectively, laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-1855;69*].

Private Sector borrowers in India will have to obtain the approval of the Government before signing the loan agreement with either EXIM Bank or the AID Authorities. In according the approval, the Government of India takes into account not only the justification for foreign expenditure but also the repayment terms. Neither of these institutions acquire any controlling interests in the borrower's industries as it only provides loans.

Violations of the Untouchability Act

5098. SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered in the last three years against those who violated the Untouchability (Offences) Act, State-wise; the number of cases finally decided in courts, and the actual number of persons convicted;

(b) the number of persons sent to jail or fined during this three years' period; the number of persons who have been given maximum imprisonment and maximum fines;

(c) whether it is a fact that in some cases the fine was just a rupee; the reasons why maximum punishment is not given to offenders; and

(d) whether Government propose to amend the Act to provide for a mandatory minimum sentence and, if not, the reasons therefor?