

(c) whether it is a fact that the contractor from whom the Civil Body was to recover about Rs. 64,000 plus a penalty of Rs. 37,000 for non-completion of the job is missing ; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to trace the contractor and to recover the amount ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) The Delhi Municipal Corporation have stated that there is no information with them that the earlier contractor to whom the work of construction of a market in Ashok Nagar was awarded in the year early 1967 was blacklisted in the C. P. W. D.

(b) It is learnt from the Delhi Municipal Corporation that the work of construction of the building portion of this market was awarded to Shri Shyam K. Pandit, S/o Shri Shiv Bihar Kishore, resident of 66/2229, Naiwala, Karol Bagh, New Delhi, on the basis that he was already having some contracts in Division No. V of the General Wing of the Corporation i.e for the construction of Sputum Disposal Dhobi Ghat, Canteen and Staff Welfare Centre at SJTB Hospital. These works SJTB Hospital were awarded to this contractor in the year 1966 prior to the date when the Work Order for the construction of a municipal market at Ashok Nagar was given to him. Shri Shyam K. Pandit was understood to be a registered contractor of Delhi University.

(c) It is further learnt from the Corporation that there is no such information that Shri Shyam K. Pandit is missing, although the arbitration proceedings against this contractor before the Sole Arbitrator in the matter of disputes of the above work, preferred by the Ex. Engineer have been carried out ex-parte. Neither the contractor nor any one else on behalf appeared before the arbitrator. He is however, appearing before another Arbitrator in the matter of disputes regarding the construction of main building of the Fire Station at Roop Nagar. He is being represented by a counsel also.

(d) The Corporation have stated that the arbitration award made by the

Sole Arbitrator in the matter of disputes of the construction of municipal market at Ashok Nagar is being filed in the High Court of Delhi to get it made the rule of Court. Further action towards the recovery of these dues from the contractor will be taken by the DMC under the law.

Ban on appointment of Judges to Political Offices

2814. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the speech of the former Attorney-General, Shri M. C. Setalvad, suggesting a ban on political offices for judges upon their retirement from the Bench, or withdrawal therefrom ;

(b) whether Government propose to implement this suggestion; and

(c) if not, what other measures Government propose to take to preserve the integrity and independence of the judiciary ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Government are not aware of any speech made by former Attorney-General (Shri M.C. Setalvad) suggesting a ban on political offices for Judges after retirement. They have however seen a press report of a speech made by Shri H. M. Seervai, Advocate-General of Maharashtra, on 24.1.1970 expressing such a view.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The integrity and independence of the judiciary are fully preserved.

Tender submitted by C.I.W.T. for Railway Ship repair job in Assam

2815. SHRI H.N. MUKHERJEE :
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Public Sector Central Inland Water Transport in Assam