

made by the Commission in this respect ;
and

(c) the decisions taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Commission on Major Ports has recommended that the major ports should necessarily aim at raising sufficient surpluses to finance a part of their development programmes while keeping in view the public interest. It has considered it necessary to lay down on ports the obligation to earn a proper return which will cover depreciation, current costs of replacement of assets, payment of interest and contingencies. The Commission has recommended a rate of return of not less than 12 per cent on the capital employed for the major ports. It has stated that port rates and charges constitute one of the important sources of income of the ports and that on the effectiveness of the system of rates and charges to produce a level of earnings adequate to meet the working expenses, depreciation and fixed charges depends the viability of the ports. To achieve the objective of a minimum return of 12 per cent on capital employed, the Commission has recommended certain principles to be observed by the major ports in regard to their rating policy. It has also recommended that the rationalisation of the rates and charges on this basis should be carried out on systematic and comprehensive lines after careful analysis and by stages.

(c) The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration of Government.

Improving of Port Administration

4510. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Major Ports Commission has emphasised the need to improve the port administration;

(b) if so, what are the suggestions

made by the Commission in this respect;
and

(c) the decisions taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Major Ports Commission considers that the strength of the user interest in the Port Trust Boards should be brought down and for this purpose, it has suggested some changes in the composition of the Port Trust Boards. It has recommended that greater financial powers should be bestowed on the Chairmen and the Port Trust Boards. The Commission is of the view that the Port Trust Boards should devote their entire attention to the policies and programmes of port development, port management, etc., rather than on administrative details such as appointments, disciplinary proceedings, etc., and it has recommended some changes in the powers of creation of, and appointment to, certain posts in order to streamline the administration. It has suggested a change in the existing disciplinary procedures also. The Commission has recommended the constitution of an advisory body, styled the Major Ports Council, with the Minister for Shipping and Transport as the Chairman, including representatives of the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission and the Chairmen of all Major ports, which will provide a forum for the consideration of major issues of planning, investment, traffic, common administrative and financial problems among major ports and thus help to improve the efficiency of the port operations.

(c) The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration of Government.

Construction of 5-Star Hotel Building At Bangalore

4511. SHRI ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the construction of the 5-Star Hotel at Bangalore under

the India Tourism Development Corporation;

(b) the expenditure so far incurred in this respect; and

(c) when the construction is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) Construction work up to the 6th floor including the machine room and overhead tank has been completed. The civil works for the swimming pool, airconditioning and installation of lifts are in progress.

(b) Rs. 43.53 lakhs up to 31st July, 1970.

(c) The hotel is likely to be ready for commercial operation early next year.

**Statement of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister
Regarding Divesting The Centre of
Powers**

4512. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement of the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister that the Center should be divested of all powers except defence, communications and foreign affairs and the State should be given more powers; and

(b) if so, Governments' reaction there to ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE, DEPARTMENTS OF ELECTRONICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH : (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). Government have seen Press Reports to this effect. Facts are being ascertained from the State Government.

Scrutiny of Reports of Administrative Reforms Commission

4513. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether several reports of the Administrative Reforms Commission including those on important subjects like the Centre-State relations and the Union Territories are yet to be fully scrutinized by the Government of India;

(b) whether the said Commission had suggested that its report be considered at the highest level by a Cabinet Sub-Committee and, if so, whether this is being done; and

(c) whether the said Commission had further recommended that a Parliamentary Committee representing all parties should be constituted to watch the pace and progress of the implementation of the recommendations and if so, whether this has been done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Out of 20 reports submitted by the ARC decisions have been taken on most of the recommendations concerning the Central Government in 7 reports. Decisions have also been taken on some of the recommendations in 2 more reports including the report on administration of Union territories and NEFA. The report on Centre-State relationships and 10 other reports are at varying stages of consideration.

(b) The Commission has recommended that before the Cabinet takes up one of its reports, it should be considered by the proposed Cabinet Committee on Administration. While the Commission's reports are always dealt with at a high level in Government, it would not be desirable to circumscribe its judgement and discretion, particularly in view of the enormous range of the subjects covered and the need for a certain measure of flexibility.

(c) The Commission has recommended the setting up of such a committee to see