

Statement-II**Terms of Reference and Composition of the Committee to inquire into the Allegations of Administrative and Financial Irregularities against authorities of KVS**

The terms of reference of the Committee are as under :

1. To look into the allegations of administrative and financial irregularities by the authorities (Chairman and Vice-Chairman, KVS) and officers of KVS during 1991 to 1997.
2. The enquiry above should be confined to the allegations made by Shri Shiv Charan Singh, M.P. vide his note date 2.4.1998 submitted to Hon'ble Human Resource Minister.

Composition of the Committee

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| 1. | Dr. Krishna Gopal Rastogi
Ex-Professor, NCERT | Chairman |
| 2. | Commodore Satbir, (Retd.)
Ex-Commissioner, KVS | Member |
| 3. | Sh. D.M. Gautam,
Director, (UT)
Deptt. of Education | Convenor |

Acquisition of Mysore Palace Bill, 1998

44. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Acquisition of Mysore Palace Bill, 1998 is before the Union Government to examine its constitutional validity;

(b) if so, whether there has been widespread opposition for its implementation in Karnataka;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to examine the constitutional validity of the said Bill and recommend withholding assent of the President; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) The Mysore Palace (Acquisition and Transfer) Bill, 1998 was referred under articles 200 and 254(2) of the Constitution for the consideration and assent of the President.

(b) No such information has been brought to the notice of the Government of India.

(c) The assent of the President has been conveyed to the State Government on November 27, 1998.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sharp Decline in Traffic at Major Ports

45. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in the traffic at the main ports of the country during the first four months of the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to increase the capacity of the ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) The traffic handled at the Major Ports of the country has declined by about 2.5% in the first 4 months of the year as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

(b) The decline in traffic is in respect of Petroleum products, finished fertilizers, coking coal and general cargo to the extent of about 6.70%, 39.80%, 5.40% and 6.40% respectively. The export of iron ore from the Major Ports of the country also came down by 16.70% during same period.

(c) The capacity of the major ports is proposed to be increased by modernising port equipment, enhancing productivity of labour and machinery and creating additional capacity of 159 million tonnes during the 9th plan period with public sector outlay of Rs. 7215 crores and envisage private investment of about Rs. 8000 crores.

[English]

Research Oriented Education

46. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any scheme for imparting the research oriented education to the students; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?