

relating to infrastructure etc. The State Government have not so far reported fulfilment of the conditions.

It is not practicable to indicate the time by which the Bench would be set up.

Revival of PSUs in West Bengal

459. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the public sector units in West Bengal for whom representations/memorandum have been received from the State Government, MPs, M.L.As, Trade Unions and officers associations, etc. for revival including modernisation and diversification, etc; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Representations/Memoranda received from specific State Governments, individuals, Associations, Trade Unions for revival, modernisation and diversification etc. are not consolidated by any single agency either State-wise or Union Territorywise. However, in respect of Central PSUs situated in different States/Union Territories enterprise, specific revival, modernisation etc. measures are taken by the administrative Ministries either suo-moto or on the basis of representations and suggestions received from various quarters.

Gold Import Through Calicut Airport

460. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the airport through which the maximum quantity of gold has been imported into our country after the Relaxation Policy of gold import by the Government; and

(b) the quantum and value of gold thus imported through Calicut Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Maximum quantity of gold has been imported into our country through Mumbai Airport after the relaxation policy of gold import by the Government.

(b) 51.282 MT of gold valued at Rs. 2458.18 Crores has been imported upto 30.6.1997 through Calicut Airport after relaxation in Gold Import Policy was introduced on 1.1.1997.

Export of Basmati Rice to USA

461. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the first-ever victory of the kind India has won an international law suit against US Commodity trading firm Rice Tec. Inc. against basmati clones;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter as per his Ministry's information; and

(c) how far it will improve India's export of basmati rice to USA and other foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) M/s. Rice Tec Inc. USA had filed an application for registration of brand name of Kasmati, Texmati, Jasmati for rice in Greece. These names were deceptively similar to basmati rice. APEDA had filed an opposition against registration of these brand names in the competent court in Greece. The trade mark administrative committee in Athens has rejected the application of M/s. Rice Tec Inc. USA for registration of trade marks Texmati, Jasmati and Kasmati.

(c) The rejection of application for registration of brand names similar to Basmati rice will help in retaining the exclusive identity of "Basmati" in the international markets.

Corruption Complaints Against Assurance Companies

462. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of complaints have been received from various quarters including the Employees Unions against corruption in some of the Divisional Offices of New India Assurance Co. Ltd. in Delhi during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon;

(c) the number of officials charge-sheeted by C.B.I. and the Vigilance Cell of the company at Delhi during the last three years;

(d) whether some of the charge-sheets issued during the last three years were served on the concerned officials recently;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the officers for not serving the charge-sheets to the concerned officials immediately after its issuance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There were 22 complaints received during the last 2 years pertaining to some of the Divisional Offices in Delhi and they were investigated by the Vigilance Officers posted at Delhi R.O. I & II. Based on the investigation carried out, 12 cases were closed and disciplinary action was taken in the remaining 10 cases.

(c) There were no charge-sheets made by CBI in respect of officials at Delhi. But the Vigilance Cell of the Company at Delhi have issued 18 charge-sheets to various officials.