

(b) Hiring charges for the tank in Kandla amounted to Rs. 31 lakhs and lease rent for the warehouse in Moscow was Rs. 43.76 lakhs.

(c) and (d) These were commercial decisions. The Sale Purchase Committee (SPC) of MMTC had taken a decision on 30.4.1997 to de-hire the tank. As regards the warehouse in Moscow, the Government had on 7th August, 1997 decided to close MMTC's operations in Moscow after the STC subsidiary is established to avoid duplication of expenditure.

[Translation]

Use of Hindi

5440. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BAINDA:

SHRI ADITYANATH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the advertisement and application forms of nationalised Banks and other Government Undertakings as well as the renewal forms of LIC are published in English only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to publish advertisement materials and policy renewal forms in Hindi as well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that advertisements and applications forms of nationalised banks are published in both languages i.e. Hindi and English. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has also informed that all advertisements for publicity are published in Hindi, English and regional languages and advertisements for vacancies are published in bilingual forms. However, advertisements for loss of policies being at the cost of policy holders are given in one language only i.e. Hindi or English or any regional language and renewal notices are sent in English or bilingual proforma.

(c) LIC has further reported that they have already sent bilingual proforma to all its zonal offices with a request to arrange for software and printing forms in bilingual format and also to arrange for training of the staff and officers who have not already undergone training.

[English]

Grant to Katihar Jute Mill

5441. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have granted Rs. 5 crores to Katihar Jute Mill;

(b) whether this amount is meant for revival of this mill;

(c) if so, whether the Government have since released the amount; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Ministry of Textiles have not granted Rs. 5 crores to Katihar Jute Mill.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Re-Organisation of Ministry

5442. SHRI VAIKO:

DR. SUGUNA KUMARI:

SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) has outlined a 4-point strategy for organisational restructuring of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A multi point strategy for reorganisation and restructuring the Ministry of Commerce was made by the Confederation of Indian Industries. These involve a number of action points, such as outlining export and import strategies, building international networks, managing and leveraging International Trade Policy etc. to make India a powerful exporting nation.

(c) The present structure of the Ministry is constantly under review and is found to be flexible lending itself to optimal performance in the era of globalisation.

Outstanding Arrears

5443. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of arrears outstanding against the Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has made any representation in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the quantum of interest being paid by the State Government yearly on these arrears?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Government of Andhra Pradesh has no arrear liability to Ministry of Finance.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.