

important Authorities in the country —is given all possible strength and it functions with all possible assistance.

MR. SPEAKER: What do you want to say about seating arrangements for Members of Parliament.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: There is a separate statement that I shall be making on that. If you want, I can make it now....

MR. SPEAKER: Yes; you may make it now. It is connected with this.

11.16 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. SEATING ARRANGEMENTS MADE AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF AGRI-EXPO. 77

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): Sir, I rise to make a statement in pursuance of the directions issued by you at the end of a brief discussion regarding the arrangements made for seating of invitees at the closing function of Agri-Expo. 77. Sir, while making arrangements for seating of the invitees at the closing function, the Trade Fair Authority of India had issued instructions to ensure that the Warrant of Precedence of the Government of India is followed. However, it is apparent that there had been some lapse in the compliance of these instructions. As a result, some people lower in the Warrant of Precedence than Members of Parliament had taken seats in the front of some Hon'ble Members of Parliament. I would like to express my sincere regrets for this lapse. I have issued clear instructions to ensure that such lapses do not recur, that the Warrant of Precedence is strictly followed in all public functions and that the dignity and status of Hon'ble Members of Parliament is fully respected.

11.18 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTION—
Contd.

Closure of Bone Mills

*453. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been large scale closure of bone mills in the country and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether producers are demanding ban on export due to manipulation of price slump by foreign buyers and if so, the export policy in this regard and action taken to save the mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

No, Sir. On the basis of present information with the Government there has been no large scale closure of crushed bone mills in the country.

2. The producers of crushed bones are not asking for a ban on exports and are in fact requesting the Government for unrestricted exports. On the other hand Ossein and Gelatine Manufacturers Association who manufacture ossein and gelatine which are value added products made from crushed bones have been requesting the Government for a long time to restrict the exports of crushed bones so that their raw material is available to them and these value added products can be exported in greater quantities by the country. Based on these considerations the Government have taken a decision to place a ceiling on the exports of crushed bones with effect from 1st October, 1977.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the hon. Minister, who has not given the details will give the House the figures of total production of bones