

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BALG): (a) and (b). Since its inception in 1965, 14 of the units set up in the Kandla Free Trade Zone have closed down for various reasons like want of export markets, financial difficulties and managerial constraints.

(c) An inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, was recently set up to study the problems hindering the growth of Kandla Free Trade Zone, and a copy of the Report has been placed in the Parliament Library. Recommendations of the Committee are being processed.

STATEMENT CORRECTING THE REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5468 DATED 30-3-1979 RE. USE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVE FOR LONG TERM BENEFIT TO ECONOMY

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): Reply to part (c) of the Unstarred Question No. 5468 is reproduced below.

(c) Foreign-exchange reserves have been utilised for imports of a variety of machinery, equipment, spares and components. The Government have allowed imports of the items required by major projects in the field of oil and gas, iron and steel, power generation and transmission, manufacture of fertilisers, pesticides and weedicides, sophisticated construction equipment for irrigation projects, etc. The considerable step up in overall imports can be seen from the provisional value of imports during April, 1978 to January, 1979 which stood at Rs. 4517.28 crores as compared to Rs. 4375.60 crores in the same period last year.

It is regretted that a typographical error has occurred in the reply. The figure 'Rs. 4517.28 crores' occurring in the last sentence should read as 'Rs. 5417.28 crores.'

12.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Now the hon. Home Minister.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I have given notice of a privilege motion. What has happened to that?

MR. SPEAKER: It is a complicated matter. I have to read a number of documents.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Parliament has been bluffed and we are silent spectators. On the one hand, we are getting beatings from the Judges and here we are getting bluffs, and we are silent spectators.

MR. SPEAKER: You are a silent spectator? Then "silence" has a different meaning.

12.01 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. LAND DEAL BY SHRI GURU DUTT SOLANKI AND SHRI GOBIND SINGH IN UTTAR PRADESH

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI H. M. PATAL): On the 30th of March, the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Stephen, made a reference to the notice of a Statutory Motion which he had sent to you, Mr. Speaker, for an enquiry under the Commission of Enquiries Act and ask the Government to state whether they are prepared to institute such an enquiry into the transaction in land in which Shri Guru Dutt Solanki and

[H. M. Patel]

12.04 hrs.

Shri Gobind Singh were involved. As the House is aware, the Deputy Prime Minister, Shri Charan Singh, made a statement on this question in the other House on the 28th of March. That statement contained his response to the demand for the appointment of a Commission of Enquiry. He made it clear that he was not in any way connected with the 'land deal' in U.P. He has categorically stated that both Shri Guru Dutt Solanki and Shri Gobind Singh, who were involved in the 'deal' are not members of his family who are dependents on him nor do they share any common economic interests with him. They are not dependents for whom he holds any responsibility. It is learnt that the U.P. Warehousing Corporation took the decision to purchase the land on the 12th January, 1979, and the Sale Deed was registered on 23-1-79. Shri Charan Singh was sworn in as a Member of the Union Cabinet on the 24th of January 1979. The transaction in question, therefore, took place at a time when Shri Charan Singh was not a Minister. He has already explained that the transaction had nothing to do with him either in his official or personal capacity.

The transaction falls within the area of responsibility of the U.P. Warehousing Corporation and the Government of Uttar Pradesh. However since the matter has been raised by the Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition in this House and by some Hon'ble Members in the other House, the Government of India has asked the Government of Uttar Pradesh to take such steps as are necessary to enquire further into the transaction and to take such appropriate action as may be warranted by the results of further enquiry. The U.P. Government will no doubt inform the Government of India of the results and conclusions of such enquiry and action taken thereon.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

DETAILED DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1979-80
OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, AND
SPACE

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI
MORARJI DESAI): I beg to lay on
the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Science and Technology for 1979-80. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4325/79].

(2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Atomic Energy for 1979-80. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4326/79].

(3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Space for 1979-80. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4327/79].

REPORT OF REDDY COMMISSION OF
INQUIRY ON NAGARWALA CASE AND
MEMORANDUM OF ACTION TAKEN
THEREON

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI H. M. PATEL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952:—

(1) Report of the P. Jaganmohan Reddy Commission of Inquiry on Nagarwala Case.

(2) Memorandum (Hindi and English versions) of action taken on the above Report. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4328/79].