

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (c). Two Industrial units in non-SSI Sector are engaged in the manufacture of Sanitary Towels, an item reserved for SSI Sector since 1967-68. One of them was in production prior to the date of reservation; the other one was registered as SSI unit and during the course of implementation, because of changes in the Import duty structure, the landed cost of plant and machinery exceeded the ceiling prescribed for the small scale sector and, therefore, was granted a COB Licence.

Civic Amenities to slums in Bombay

1894. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 20 March, 1990 to Starred Question No. 104 regarding slums in railway tracks in Maharashtra and state:

(a) whether the final decision has been taken to provide civic amenities to slums on railway land in the Bombay beyond 30 ft. from the railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when its implementation would begin; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Government of Maharashtra has so far not fulfilled the conditions for granting No Objection Certificate, viz., shifting of hutment dwellers from safety zone and giving an undertaking for construction of

boundary wall at 30 ft. distance from the track before slum improvement works are undertaken. They have also not accepted the offer made by Railways for relinquishment of surplus railway land, either on current market value or on exchange basis, so as to enable the State Government to implement the Slum Upgradation Project. The State Government has also been given the option of taking this land on licence at 6% of the market value of land on long term basis.

Ban on Smoking on Flights

1895. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether smoking has been banned on Indian Airlines flights;

(b) whether government propose to impose a similar ban on flights of other airlines like Air India and Vayudoot; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) With effect from the 6th of June, 1990, Indian Airlines has banned smoking on all its domestic flights. However on its international flights to neighbouring countries, following the international practice, a complete ban has not been imposed. Accordingly, certain percentage 'Non-smoking' zones has been provided.

(b) and (c). Vayudoot has already banned smoking on all its flights. On the other hand, Air India, being an international carrier, operating on long-haul flights, has not banned smoking on board its flights. To avoid inconvenience to non-smoking passengers Air India has earmarked various zones/seats on the aircraft as meant for use by Non-smoking' passengers.