

### **Appointment Orders to Persons from Kerala in SCI**

10397. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether appointment orders allegedly signed by an officer of Shipping Corporation of India, Bombay were given to a number of persons in Kerala.

(b) whether telex messages were also sent to the selected persons informing the date and place for joining duty;

(c) whether these persons who got the appointment order and telex messages are not yet appointed;

(d) whether any complaints have been received that lakhs of rupees have been collected from these persons for giving such appointment orders; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). Some persons have made complaints that they received letters of appointment allegedly signed by one Sh. J. A. Kamble, Dy. Manager of SCI for jobs on Off-shore Supply Vessels. These persons have also complained that they had received telegrams alleged to have been sent by SCI.

(c) Since SCI was neither contemplating any recruitment of crew on Off-shore Supply Vessels nor had called any candidates for test, interviews etc, there was no question of appointing these persons in SCI.

(d) The representations and petitions received by SCI allege that the persons concerned have paid some amounts to a persons employed as a Head Cook on one of SCI's vessels.

(e) The concerned Head Cook was discharged from the last vessel on 21.6.1989 on short leave. Despite repeated messages from SCI, he has not reported back to SCI for duties. In view of this, SCI has not been able to take any action against him. As per a recent message received, he is expected to report for duties by end of May, 1990.

As regards Shri Kamble, Dy. Manager, SCI, on the basis of complaints received, SCI immediately suspended him on 1.10.1989 and a Departmental Committee was appointed to investigate into this matter. Shri Kamble filed a Writ petition in the Bombay High Court. The Bombay High Court *vide* their Order dated 7.2.1990 directed the SCI to complete the enquiry including passing of an Order on or before 30.4.1990, failing which the impugned order of suspension dated 4.10.1989 shall stand automatically revoked. The enquiry could not be completed by 30.4.1990 and, as directed by the High Court, the suspension has been revoked and Shri Kamble reported for duty w.e.f. 2.5.1990. The departmental enquiry is still in progress. Government have also referred the matter to CBI in January, 1990 for a thorough investigation.

### **Acquisition of Land for Farm Houses**

10398. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has recently been spurt in acquisition of agricultural land around New Delhi by the affluent section of people for construction of palatial buildings as 'farm houses';

(b) if so, the number of farm houses which have come-up during the past Five years and the area acquired for the same; and

(c) whether Government propose to