

[*Translation*]

TFAI Facilities Like Pragati Maidan in Other Cities

10464. SHRI SARJU PRASAD SAROJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Trade Fair Authority of India (TFAI) propose to provide facilities like those provided at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi in some other cities also;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to provide such facilities in Uttar Pradesh also;

(d) if so, when and where and the amount allocated therefor; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) and (b). Trade Fair Authority of India aims at organising trade fairs not only in Delhi but also in other important cities and State capitals. Though there are certain proposals to develop exhibition infrastructure in the metropolitan cities in the country like Bombay, no definite project has emerged.

(c) to (e). In 1987, the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh requested TFAI to prepare feasibility report for setting up of an exhibition complex in Lucknow. TFAI informed Govt. of U.P. about the terms of preparing such a report. In the absence of a reply from Govt. of U.P. no further progress has been made on the proposal.

[*English*]

Special Duty Allowance in Offices of North Eastern Region

10465. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to

(a) whether necessary Government orders have since been issued for payment of the Special duty Allowance to all Sections of the Central Government Employees working in different offices of North Eastern Region with retrospective effect in accordance with provisions of Government of India order dated 14th December, 1983;

(b) if so, which are those offices: and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the orders are likely to be issued?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c). In accordance with the Government of India order dated 14.12.1983, Special (Duty) Allowance has been allowed to Central Government Civilian employees, as an incentive to attract and retain the services of competent officers in the North Eastern Region. These orders are applicable to all those Central Government Civilian employees who have All India Transfer Liability and are posted to North Eastern Region. Therefore, there is no need for issuing a separate order in respect of Central Govt. employees having All India Transfer Liability and working in North Eastern Region. However, in very few exceptional cases, the condition of All India Transfer Liability was relaxed in public interest.

Residential Flats Taken on Lease by United Bank of India

10466. SHRI B.N. REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Bank of India has obtained residential flats for their employees on lease in Delhi, if so, the number of flats taken on lease as on date;

(b) whether the Bank has renewed

(c) the number of cases where landlords refused to accept the renewed lease agreements during 1989 and 1990 (so far);

(d) whether the Bank has vacated the premises in case landlords did not agree to accept the new lease agreements and requested for vacation of flats;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action, if any, proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) United Bank of India has reported that it has taken 115 flats on lease in Delhi for its employees as on date.

(b) It is the endeavour of the Bank to get the lease deeds renewed on their expiry.

(c) According to Bank, landlords have refused to accept the renewed lease agreements in 33 cases during 1989 and 1990 (so far);

(d) to (f). The Bank has reported that it has vacated 30 flats so far after taking into account the genuine difficulties of the landlords. In the remaining cases the Bank has not been able to make alternative arrangements and is also not convinced about the genuineness of the demand of the landlords for vacation.

Acquisition of premises on lease/rental basis, renewal of lease deeds and vacation of premises are matters of day to day operations of the Banks and decisions in this regard are taken by banks themselves on commercial considerations. Government do not interfere in such day to day operations of the Banks.

Concessional Rate of Customs duty to Hindustan Photo films Manufacturing Company Ltd.

10467. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether concessional rate of customs duty was granted around 1982 onwards to Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd., only after taking into consideration the Excise duty, Sales tax, conversion cost and large investment made by Government in the Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co. Ltd., for expansion programme for integrated manufacture of all photo-sensitised goods;

(b) whether the same method was adopted in granting concessional rate of customs duty to private sector units; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Presumably the reference is to the concessional rates of customs duty on import of photo sensitised goods. Initially, import duty concession was granted around 1976 for import of colour jumbo films for processing into colour cine films. Import duty concessions for import of jumbo rolls of other photo-sensitised goods were also extended subsequently at various concessional rates. The duty concessions available under the relevant notifications are not confined to Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited and can be availed of by any importer so long as he fulfils the conditions stipulated in the relevant notifications.

(b) and (c). In view of (a) above, does not arise.

Loans Sanctioned by Delhi Financial Corporation

10468. SHRI M.S. PAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: