

1990. However, on enquiry it was found that all the receipted forms were in safe custody of the designated officer and only some blank and unreceipted forms seemed to have been burnt by some increants with a view to maligning the official. All papers which had been duly received were later handed over to the Electoral Registration Officer for the Constituency for further necessary action.

### **Bogus RBI Circular**

8250. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the new system captioned, "Bogus RBI Circular takes exporters for a ride" appearing in the Economic Times dated 2 March, 1990;

(b) if so, the factual position thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Information is being collected from Reserve Bank of India, and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

### **Economic Problems of Rickshaw Pullers**

8251. SHRI YUVRAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made by Government relating to the economic problems of rickshaw pullers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any court has ever given a judgement regarding ownership rights over rickshaws;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken by Government thereon. and

(f) the other welfare measures proposed to be taken by Government for the rickshaw pullers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a), (b) and (f). The Government is aware of the problems of people belonging to poorer sections of the society including rickshaw pullers who are among the particularly disadvantaged sections of the society. The Government, therefore, launched a new scheme viz. Self Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) for providing loans through the banking system with a subsidy component in September, 1986. Under the scheme the borrower is eligible for a loan upto Rs. 5,000/- at an interest rate of 10% per annum. The Central Government provides a capital subsidy at the rate of 25% of the project cost.

(c) to (e). Punjab National Bank has reported that the Supreme Court had passed an order in September, 1986 on the question whether the banks could extend the facility of loan without security to rickshaw pliers for the purchase of cycle rickshaws valued upto a maximum of Rs. 2,000/-. Punjab National Bank had filed an affidavit stating that loans were available to rickshaw pullers for the purchase of cycle rickshaws under the RBI guidelines on priority sector lending and the SEPUP. the bank will require hypothecation of rickshaws purchased with the bank loan and no collateral security of guarantee is called for.