

expenditure of Rs. 5.88 lakh had been incurred due to delay in the body building of 3 exhibition vans meant for Itanagar, Aizwal and Calcutta Units (Mobile Van Units) of DAVP. While the van units at Itanagar and Aizwal were commissioned under the 6th Plan Scheme, the van meant for Calcutta was for replacement of the old van which had been declared unserviceable and subsequently auctioned.

2. There had been delay in fabrication of these vans on account of:—

- (a) Procurement of Van's Chassis,
- (b) Preparation of technical specifications/design and model and finalisation of the same,
- (c) Inviting of tenders,
- (d) Finalisation of lowest tenderer,
- (e) Assigning the job to the lowest tenderer,
- (f) Periodical inspection and scrutiny of the fabrication job as per specifications,
- (g) Withdrawing of 3rd chassis from the contractor when it was noticed that the party was delaying the fabrication job,
- (h) Awarding the job to another contractor by floating fresh tenders and observing all the formalities.

3. The C A G, in its report, had observed that the expenditure incurred towards pay and allowances of the staff members was infructuous since the units could not perform exhibition activities.

4. The Staff members of the Calcutta Van Unit soon after the van became inoperative, were deployed for conducting general exhibition programmes (as a General Unit). Throughout the period, the unit remained occupied while action at Headquarters went on for providing the new van to the units.

5. The staff members of other remaining two units were employed

before receiving the vans to do preliminary work. They had to be paid their salary as they were in position.

#### **Autonomy Exercised by BBC and American Television Network**

1449. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether during his recent visits to USA and UK, he took the opportunity to study the working of electronic media there including the BBC and the American Television network; and

(b) If so, the outcome thereof, indicating the extent of autonomy exercised by them and the nature and extent of Government control on them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING & MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The visit was utilised to study the working of BBC and the American Television network.

The functioning of BBC is governed by the Royal Charter and a licence and Agreement executed with the British Government. According to the provisions of these documents, Government can exercise considerable control over the Broadcasting Corporation.

The American Television Network is mostly privately owned and not subject to Government controls.

[Translation]

#### **Central Trade Service**

1450. SHRI NANDLAL MEENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the objective of creating Central Trade Service;

(b) whether the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given priority at the time of posting in foreign countries; and

(c) the percentage thereof in the service at present?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):** (a) The Central Trade Service was created with the following objectives:—

- (i) To make available to the Import and Export Trade Control Organisation a regularly constituted and organised service which would help the morale of the officers and enable them to function with greater confidence and initiative.
  - (ii) To remedy the defects in the then existing situation and to make possible to plan recruitment, training and deployment of personnel in a better way so as to meet the various growing needs of the organisation.
  - (iii) To gradually encampass within its fold other cognate activities where professionalisation in the matters of trade and commerce is called for.
- (b) and (c): No Sir, as the officers belonging to the Central Trade Service are not being deployed in our foreign missions at present.

[*English*]

**SITE For Ship Breaking Yard in Konkan Region**

1452. **PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Managing Director, Development Corporation of Konkan Limited, Bombay have identified site at Navapur near Tarapur in Ucheli

creek for development of ship breaking yard in Konkan region;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the concerned agency (viz. M/s. Steel Shark Ship-breakers, Bombay) in the matter so far?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL & MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) and (b) Development Corporation of Konkan Ltd., Bombay, (DCKL) who are the nodal agency appointed by the State Government for development and allotment of plots for ship-breaking in the state, have identified a site at Navapur near Tarapur in Thane District for development of a ship-breaking yard and approached the State Government for securing necessary approvals in this regard.

**Indo-French Joint Business Meet**

1453. **SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-French Joint Business Council met for the Eighth time in Paris in June, 1990:

(b) if so, the main points discussed and the decisions taken in the meeting; and

(c) to what extent the trade between two countries will be improved?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):** (a) to (c) A delegation of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) had visited Paris on 7th and 8th June 1990 for the 8th meeting of the Indo-French Joint Business Council. FICCI has reported that discussions were held generally to promote Indian exports to EEC specifically with reference to the French market. The discussion had also focussed on the investment policy of the Government of India, scope for joint ventures involving transfer of French techno-