

Proposal to Declare "Valinokkam" in Tamilnadu as a Customs Port

313. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to declare "VILINOKKAM" a fishing harbour in Tamilnadu as a Customs port; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The anticipated import and export traffic at Valinokkam port is not significant to declare it as a customs port. So far only requests for import of ships for the purpose of breaking were received. Administrative arrangements for customs clearance of these vessels have been made at the nearby Tuticorin port, which is presently not utilised to its full capacity. Govt. do not, therefore, find it justifiable to declare Valinokkam as a customs port.

Development of Tourist Places in Jammu

314. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of tourist places in Jammu, Rajouri and Poonch districts in the J & K State;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the steps being taken to develop these places for the tourists?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are a number of places of scenic and cultural importance in these districts.

(c) Following projects have been sanctioned by the Central Department of Tourism to develop tourist infrastructure in Jammu district;

1. Development of facilities at Baghe-Bahu.
2. Yatri Niwas at Jammu
3. Kiosk at Nandri
4. Wayside facilities at Mansar

The Department have not received any proposal for the development of tourist infrastructure in Rajouri and Poonch districts from the State Government.

Non-Screening of Feature Film on 9 December, 1989

315. SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had cancelled/postponed telecast of a particular feature film on 9th December, 1989;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to frame a new set of norms for selecting the feature films for telecast?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c). No film was scheduled to be telecast on December 9, 1989.

Measures for Price Control

316. DR. THAMBI DURAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the package of measures for price control will be announced;

(b) how far the State Governments will be involved in these measures; and

(c) the details of articles that would be brought within the package?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE). (a) to (c). The Government have already appointed a Cabinet Committee on Prices to review the price situation and take necessary measures to contain rise in prices of essential commodities.

Modernisation of Indian Iron and Steel Company Ltd. at Kulti

317. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration a Japan-collaborated Project for the modernisation of the Indian Iron and Steel Company Ltd. at Kulti (Asansol) in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the present stage of its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b). There is no proposal for collaboration with Japan for the modernisation of Kulti Works of IISCO which have basically foundry facilities. However, a proposal to modernise iron and steel works of IISCO at Burnpur with Japanese credit is currently under examination in the Government. Preliminary and site preparation works are in progress in Burnpur.

Payment of Interim Grant for Bombay

318. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ninth Finance Commission has recommended payment of interim grant of Rs. 50 crores for Bombay to be matched by similar grant of Rs. 50 crores by State Government with a condition that it should be utilised before 31st March, 1990;

(b) if so, whether the payment has been made;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any time-bound action is proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d). The Ninth Finance Commission has recommended in its First Report for 1989-90 a grant of Rs. 50 crores to Government of Maharashtra for slum clearance and environmental improvement of slums and provision of basic amenities in the city of Bombay with an equal matching contribution by the State Government.

The State Government have proposed a number of schemes with a total outlay of Rs. 138.74 crores (which will be limited to Rs. 100 crores for purpose of utilising the above mentioned grant). Of these, schemes with an outlay of Rs. 97.55 crores have so far been approved.

An amount of Rs. 12.19 crores have so far been released to the State Government on 'on-account' basis and the balance amount will be released on the basis of report of expenditure and physical progress to be submitted by the State Govt.

The State Government have been advised to utilise the above mentioned grant.