

there any review being made as to the desirability of continuing this scheme should be brought to an end. Has any review been made and if so, what is the decision of the Government?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

As I have said, not much investment has flown into it. But there is no harm in keeping.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Hoping to get something!

Export of tender coconut

*340. **SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any export of tender coconut is being made at present;

(b) if so, the quantity exported with names of the countries;

(c) whether any trade enquiries were received for export of tender coconut by the Government of Karnataka and other States; and

(d) whether Union Government have any proposal to encourage export of tender coconut from that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government is not aware of any trade enquiries received by State Government of Karnataka or any other States. No communications also has been received from any State Government in this regard.

(d) No, Sir.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: It is surprising that the most delicious, healthiest and contamination-free drink, which is required for almost all patients except diabetic patients, is not being exported from our country. What is the actual difficulty in ex-

porting tender coconut? Has Government made any attempt? You say that the State Governments have not made enquiries. I would like to know whether the Central Government has made any attempt in this regard.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT: It is a fact that tender coconut is a delicious drink. But there are difficulties. The first is, the people exporting green coconuts will be deprived of exporting copra and also husk which are more important. We are short of edible oils also. Moreover there is another difficulty and that is that the weight of tender coconut is substantial and the freight involved is also very substantial. It is a perishable commodity and no particular trade inquiry has been received from any country. Of course, the Karnataka Government wanted some samples to be sent. We allowed them and we do not know what happened afterwards.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: The via-media, is, let it be made available in Delhi. Here you will get a good price.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: That does not yet amount to exports.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: The Hon. Minister was pleased to say that the demand for copra is more. Considering the health point of view doctors prescribe all kinds of patients syrups and other things. Though I am not a medical man, I know that coconut is the best drink for every kind of patients. The Minister mentioned that it is perishable. But it is not at all that perishable. It can last for eight to ten days. An attempt must be made. I will see that Karnataka Government gives its views. After the receipt of the reply will you consider... *(Interruptions)*...As Shri Azad said, it is not available in Delhi also. It is very surprising Sir I suggest that we should have a counter in the Parliament House also, so that Members can take a drink and be more effective in their work. That is a substitute for other drinks that they take.

After the receipt of the reply from the Karnataka Government will you take steps to see that the tender coconuts are exported?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : There is no ban on bringing coconuts to Delhi or to the Parliament House for our Hon. Members; but not inside the Hall... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : We want them inside the Central Hall.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I think it is in the national interest to export coconut, copra and husk and utilise them also in our edible oil. There is no ban for its movement inside the country.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : You know that tender coconut is very sweet. It is sweeter than the pepsicola and other colas. The Hon. Minister was pleased to say that the problem is regarding the export because of its delicate nature. The fact is that we are not to export or market the tender coconut before it gets fermented. The question is of preservation. I would like to know whether the Government is having any scheme for preserving tender coconut water and bottle it and then market it within the country and also export. In that case we will get very good export market also. I would like to know whether Government has any scheme in this regard.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : As far as we know it is profitable and we get more foreign exchange by exporting other end products. But, if there is any proposal, we definitely examine it.

SHRI ANANDA GOPAL MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Government consider it seriously as to whether they can put a ban on use of green coconut? Because by using it we lose so many things coming out of coconut. Will the Government consider it seriously?

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : They want it to be banned entirely.

[*English*]

This is another view... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We cannot consider banning.

Implementation of reservation orders in Indian Overseas Bank

* 342. **SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's instructions regarding reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being followed in the Indian Overseas Bank in recruitment and promotions to various categories of its employees; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the action proposed by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below :

Statement

(a) and (b). Indian Overseas Bank has reported that the policy of the Government regarding reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, both in direct recruitment and in promotions from the clerical cadre to the lowest rung of the officers cadre, is being followed by the bank. However, the vacancies filled up through promotions by candidates belonging to the reserved categories are being calculated in the bank with reference to the total Vacancies filled up every year plus the backlog in the same category. The system followed by the bank leads to higher number of reserved vacancies than those calculated on the basis of roster system. The bank has been advised to follow the roster system as prescribed by the Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in connection with the information given by the Hon. Minister in reply to my question, I want to submit for the information of the House that on attaining independence it was felt that the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes had lagged far behind in comparison with the other communities. Therefore, the Government, in order to bring them at par with the other communities, formulated a