

Letter of Authority to Bhagwandas Sant Prakash for Importing Nylon Yarn

*68. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) At what level and on what date the decision to issue a letter of authority to the firm, Bhagwandas Sant Prakash for importing nylon yarn and thread/polyster fibre was taken, and whether this was not in opposition to the views expressed by the Reserve Bank and the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports as also in violation of the policy then in force; and

(b) On what date was the abeyance order withdrawn and what was the date on which the cautionary circular was withdrawn?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(PROF D P CHATOPADHYAYA)

(a) The decision to issue Customs Clearance Permit for import of nylon yarn and thread was taken on 12-1-1971. The decision to include polyester fibre in the said Customs Clearance Permit was taken on 3-3-1971. These decisions were taken at the level of the former Minister of Foreign Trade. The circumstances which weighed in taking the decision was that the firm had exported the goods to Afghanistan which had not been paid for by counter balancing imports.

(b) Abeyance Orders were withdrawn on 1-4-1971 and 20-5-1971. The Cautionary Circular was withdrawn on 7-6-1971.

D. A to Central Government employees

*69 SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:

SHRI N K SANGHI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to give in cash three instal-

ments of Dearness Allowance due to the Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the terms of the agreement made in this regard and the response of the Employees' Association to Government decision; and

(c) whether any decision has been taken on the remaining instalments due so far and if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b) Government have recently sanctioned three more instalments of dearness allowance with effect from 1-6-74, 1-7-74 and 1-9-74 respectively. The payments due on account of these instalments, leaving out the 50 per cent which is to be credited to the Compulsory Deposit in accordance with the provisions of the Additional Emoluments, (Compulsory Deposit) Act, 1974, are to be made in each for the period from 1-1-1975 onwards, the arrears for the earlier period being credited to the employees, Provident Fund Accounts. No withdrawal will be made from these special deposits in Provident Fund Accounts, till 30-6-75, for the present. These decisions were taken after talks with the Staff representatives and have generally been well received.

(c) As regards the compensation for price rise beyond the index average of 272, the matter is being reviewed, as recommended by the Third Pay Commission.

Slackness in Anti-Smuggling Drive
*70 SHRI P A SAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have decided not to continue any more the anti-smuggling drive in the country which was in full swing in the months of October to December, 1974;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) how many raids were carried out in the country during the months of December, 1974, January and February, 1975 in various States;

(d) whether these anti-smuggling operations were less than those in the last year; and

(e) what steps are being taken to step up these operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) No sir; there is no let up in the anti-smuggling drive.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Over 350 raids per month were carried out during December, 1974 and January, 1975

(d) No sir; the anti-smuggling operations were not less than those in the last year.

(e) Apart from preventive detentions of smugglers and foreign exchange racketeers, measures have already been taken to set up the preventive checks in vulnerable areas, the distribution centres and on the feeder roads. A wireless communication network linking a number of points on the West Coast has also been established. Extra staff and equipments have also been provided to field offices for the purpose. Ten Norwegian boats fitted with radar and other equipment have been acquired and ten more boats are expected to arrive by March this year.

Administrative steps such as bringing more effective officers into the position have also been taken. More administrative and legislative measures are under consideration.

पोलैंड को कार्बोनों का निर्यात

* 71. श्री महावीर सिंह शास्त्री : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत पोलैंड को कार्बोनों का निर्यात करता है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो वर्ष 1972-73 की तुलना में 1973-74 में कितने मूल्य के कार्बोनों का निर्यात किया गया ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बिश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) :

(क) जी हाँ ।

(ख) 1973-74 के दौरान पोलैंड को 23.84 लाख रु० मूल्य के हाथ से गाठे लगे हुए ऊनी कार्बोनों, ग्लीको तथा दर्शकों का, जिनमें नमदे भी शामिल है, निर्यात किया गया जब कि 1972-73 में 6887 लाख रुपये मूल्य के निर्यात किये गये थे ।

Strike by Jute Workers of West Bengal

*72. SHRI R. N. BARMAN:
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether over two lakh jute workers of West Bengal had gone on strike recently;

(b) if so, the production loss as a result of the strike as estimated by Government authorities;

(c) whether any effort has been made to arrive at an agreement between Union workers and Government to end the strike; and

(d) if so, the broad outlines of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):
(a) Yes, Sir.