

Increase in administrative expenditure of Government

***172. SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZALPURKAR:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a considerable increase in the administrative expenditure of Government as compared to the last two years; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to effect economy in the administrative expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The provision for administrative expenditure in the Budget Estimates for the year 1972-73 shows some increase over the expenditure on the same account during 1970-71 and 1971-72 (R.E.). This is mainly due to following factors:

(1) additional interim relief to Central Government employees.

(2) additional expenditure due to continuing tension prevailing on our borders.

(3) normal annual increments granted to staff.

(b) A number of measures have been taken during the last few years for achieving economy in administrative expenditure of Government. Some of the important measures that have been taken are—ban on revision of pay scales, partial ban on recruitment to certain categories of posts, ban on creation of posts on non-plan side, curbs on white-washing, foreign travel, use of telephones and staff cars, purchase of furnishings, decorative articles and imported cars, curtailment of traveling allowances, intensification of staff inspection studies and non-filling of vacant posts besides restrictions on unproductive items of expenditure by curtailing the provision made for contingencies and on entertainment and printing of greeting cards etc.

Economy efforts being a continual process, the matter is constantly engaging the attention of Government.

Setting up of Jute Mills

***173. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: SHRI DASARATHA DEB:**

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up jute mills in certain States in the public sector; and

(b) if so, the States in which the mills are to be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Docs not arise.

Purchase of electrical plant and machinery by Renusagar Power Company Limited

***176. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Renusagar Power Company Limited', wholly-owned subsidiary of HANDALCO (a Birla concern) had purchased electrical plant and machinery worth several crores of rupees from I.G.E., U.S.A., during 1966-67 and onwards;

(b) if so, whether as per the term of contract, Messrs Traders International, Washington D.C., U.S.A. (also a Birla concern) were covered for purchase Commission;

(c) whether the Birla concerns managed duplicate remittance of the purchase Commission to their Office located in Switzerland which is known as Messrs Birla A.G.Z.G.V.; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?