

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN:
It is estimated that it may be from 10 to 25 per cent if we strictly follow the rules.

MR. SPEAKER: The question hour is over. Still we are very much below the average number of questions.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Poor performance of Jute Corporation of India

*283. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint has been lodged by M.Ps. or State Governments of West Bengal and Bihar about the poor performances of the Jute Corporation of India;

(b) if so, what are those complaints; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) to (c). Suggestions for the improvement in the working of J.C.I. have been made in the various era and these mainly relate to the inadequacy of the infra-structure of the Corporation. Government are keeping close watch over the working of the organisation and further steps to strengthen the administrative set up, to expand the infra-structure and to train man-power are being taken.

Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference held at Dar-es-Salaam

*284. **SHRI BAKSI NAYAK:**
DR. H. P. SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference was held recently at Dar-es-Salaam;

(b) if so, the important recommendations and observations made at the Conference; and

(c) to what extent these recommendations, when implemented, would help India's Economy?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Ministers stressed the need for speedy reform of the International Monetary system which should have particular regard to the needs of developing countries. They also emphasised that such a reform should promote a greater and more assured transfer of real resources to developing countries. They endorsed the establishment of the Special Drawing Rights as the primary reserve asset.

On the world economic situation, they called for urgent international study with a view to overcome inflation and its adverse effects. They stressed the importance of the successful outcome of the multilateral trade negotiations to all Commonwealth Countries.

These matters are of interest to developing countries, including ourselves.

Loss of International Market by Indian Tea

*288. **SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether neglecting the replantation and replacement of old plants has resulted in loss of international market by the Indian tea; and

(b) if so, whether Government intends to assume powers to take over the sick tea gardens in the light of the recommendations made by the task force set up for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of Government.