

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) The Election Commission made an announcement of bye-elections in the above-mentioned three Assembly Constituencies on 6th April, 1990 and accordingly the Model Code of Conduct came into force with immediate effect. According to the information available with the Election Commission, no transfer of officers connected with these bye-elections has been made by the Haryana Government since that date.

**Official Rates of Rouble and Dollar Vis-a-Vis-Indian Rupee**

475. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the official rate of the Russian Rouble vis-a-vis the Indian rupee;

(b) what is the official rate of the US Dollar vis-a-vis the Indian rupee;

(c) whether it is a fact that a person can officially change one US Dollar for six Roubles in the Soviet Union; and

(d) how does this disparity affect India's trade with USSR?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI):

(a) As on 4-5-1990, Rouble 1 = Rs. 19.9169.

(b) As on 4-5-1990, US \$ 1 = Rs. 17.395.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, this rate is applicable to tourists and non-

commercial transactions; not for trade and commercial transactions.

(d) There is no evidence to suggest that the disparity has a direct impact on India's trade with the USSR.

**Appointment of Deputy Director (FAC) Varanasi in the Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)**

476. SHRI T. R. BALU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint regarding appointment of Deputy Director (FAC) Varanasi in the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts);

(b) whether some Members of Parliament and some former Members have also written to former Ministers-in-charge of DOP and Textiles and to Chairman, UPSC in this regard, if so, what are the dates on which those references were received; and

(c) what action Government have taken so far any propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Three Members/ Former Members of Parliament had written to the then Minister in-charge of DOP and Chairman, UPSC and the same were received in the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) on 8-11-89, 6-10-89 and 30-11-89 respectively.

(c) The UPSC has been requested to fill up the post of Deputy