

Sabha on the 1st August, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the Swedish Audit Bureau had revealed in May-June, 1987 that huge payments had been made in secret Swiss Bank accounts by the Bofors in the Howitzer gun deal;

(b) whether the CBI had registered a criminal case; if so, when and for what offence and against whom;

(c) whether an Indian Court was approached to seek Swiss help for knowing about the recipients of the Bofors payments; if so, with what results; and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether an understanding has been reached with the Swiss Government to help each other in criminal cases like that of Bofors payments; if so, what specific steps have been taken to know the identity of the recipients?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A C.B.I. case, Preliminary Enquiry, was instituted on 8-11-1988, primarily against W. N. Chadha, M/s. Anatronc General Corporation, New Delhi, M/s. Svenska Inc. (a company incorporated in Panama) and others.

(c) and (d) So far no Indian Court has been approached. Assistance has been sought by CBI by sending a Letter Rogatory in terms of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Swiss Government.

Rejection of Rice by Foreign Buyers

*30. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1893 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th March, 1989 and state:

(a) what was the total quantity of rice rejected by the foreign buyers of

NCCF, at Kandla Port during 1981-82, as being of inferior and sub-standard quality, apart from that damage due to the reported cyclone;

(b) what was the exact amount of rebate given per M/T, in U.S. dollars, on this rejected quantity of rice; and

(c) what disciplinary action had been taken against the concerned Regional Manager and his staff for procuring and despatching this inferior and sub-standard quality of rice to Kandla, resulting in loss to the Federation?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA):

(a) NCCF have reported that 10773 MTs. of IR-8 rice and 7073 MTs. of PR-106 rice were found to be containing higher broken percentage and consequently could not be loaded to the ships before the rain and cyclone at the Kandla Port.

(b) The rebate of US \$ 10.00 per M.T. was allowed for the shipment of 9552 MTs. of IR-8 rice as per records of NCCF.

(c) The stocks were certified to be export worthy as per the specifications of foreign buyer at the procuring centres. The stocks were rejected mainly on account of higher broken percentages which was due to prolonged storage in the open space at Kandla Port in extreme heat, on account of delay in nomination of vessels by the foreign buyers, congestion in Kandla Port and non-receipt of polythene packing bags from the importers' agent.

No action has been taken against the then Regional Manager (N) and the staff in this matter.

The NCCF have filed a case in the High Court of Delhi against the Insurance Company and the matter is sub-judice.