

and supervise the working of the DLCC, a State Level Consultative Committee (SLCC) has also been set up. In the case of Delhi, the DLCC was constituted vide a notification dated 28th June, 1985 with the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi as Chairman and the Additional District Magistrate as a Member as well as the CESO for Delhi. This Committee has held three meetings on 7th February, 1986, 28th August, 1986 & 3rd April, 1987 but no claim has been reported so far by the CESO. The implementation of the Scheme in Delhi has been reviewed by Government and the attention of Delhi Administration has been drawn for further follow up action. The Insurance Company has also been advised to increase its publicity for better understanding and propagation of the Scheme. The following steps have been taken:—

(i) Distribution of posters, leaflets and booklets.

(ii) Talks on Akashwani.

(iii) Campaign through Press.

(iv) Seminars are also being organised to familiarise field workers responsible for its implementation on different aspects of this Scheme.

(b) Government have borne the entire cost of premium for the insurance cover on All India basis and no separate premium has been paid for Delhi alone.

Freight equalisation in coal and cotton

2294. DR. R. K. PODDAR:

SHRI MOSTAFA BIN
QUASEM:

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for not introducing freight equalisation in respect of coal and cotton as demanded by eastern States;

(b) what are the reasons for not lifting freight equalisation on iron and steel as demanded by eastern States; and

(c) which of the States are to derive benefits under (a) and (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The subject of freight equalisation has been studied by a number of Committees, the last one being the National Transport Policy Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri B. D. Pandey. The Committee concluded that the beneficial effect in terms of regional dispersal as a result of freight equalisation was more than off-set by increase in real transport costs and freight equalisation had little effect on generating employment in backward regions. The scheme does not meet the desirable objective of dispersal of economic activity but can lead to non-optimal location of industries. It has therefore been decided not to introduce freight equalisation in respect of any new item like coal, cotton etc.

(b) In the light of the representations received from various State Governments, the Government have reviewed the earlier decision of lifting freight equalisation on iron and steel and decided to refer the matter to the National Development Council.

(c) The freight equalisation policy in respect of a commodity benefits the States located far away from the sources of the commodity. The benefits derived by the individual States in respect of each raw material have not been worked out.

Financial Institution named Blade Companies

2295. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the functioning of the private money lending institutions, known as

'blade companies' in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and the names of States where such 'blade companies' are functioning;

(c) whether the Government have received reports about cheating of the public by these so-called blade companies; and

(d) what action has so far been taken or is proposed to be taken to curb the activities of these 'blade companies' to protect the interests of the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) Government are aware that certain unincorporated bodies known as 'Blade Companies' are functioning in some southern States. Some of these 'Blade Companies' have branches in other States also. It has been reported that these 'Blade Companies' accept deposits from public by offering very high rates of interests and lend the same by charging exorbitant rates of interest. There are also reports about certain unincorporated bodies not paying back the deposits, when demanded.

The deposit acceptance activities of such bodies are regulated under Chapter III-C of Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. These provisions prohibit such bodies from accepting deposits in excess of the specified number of depositors. The Act also provides for penal action for violating these provisions. These powers vest concurrently with Reserve Bank of India and the State Governments.

Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has, already, initiated action against several concerns at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Kottayam, Madras and Trivandrum for violation of the provisions of Chapter III-C. The Kerala State Police is also reported to have raided the offices of some con-

cerns and have seized documents. The proprietors/partners of some of these bodies are reported to have been arrested for breach of trust and cheating. Reserve Bank of India has reported that quite recently, it, along with the officers of Government of Kerala had raided the offices of a number of unincorporated bodies in Kerala for suspected violation of the various provisions of the relevant Acts. Reserve Bank of India has further reported that the State Government of Kerala has also taken action, under the provisions of Indian Penal Code against some concerns.

The Constitutional validity of Chapter III-C of Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 has been challenged and the matter is pending before the Supreme Court and is, therefore, *sub-judice*.

भर्ती सम्बन्धी नियमों का उल्लंघन

2296. श्री अजीत सिंह

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को भर्ती संबंधी नियमों का उल्लंघन करने के सरकारी नौकरियों में बड़े पैमाने पर भर्ती निये जाने के समाचार मिले हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि गत वर्ष इन प्रकार के मामलों में दोषी पाये गये लोगों के विरुद्ध सरकार ने कार्रवाई की थी ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में व्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) भविष्य में इन प्रकार की गति-विधियों को रोकने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बीरेन सिंह इंगती) :

(क) जी, हां । इन उल्लंघनों का संबंध