

Appointment of contractual and temporary workers in the E T & T

705. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what is the number of contractual/temporary workers from private companies who have been appointed in the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Ltd. and how much amount has been paid to them during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): For obtaining services of varied nature from time to time, Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ET&T) have not appointed any personnel but given assignments on contractual basis to outside bodies and agencies.

ET&T has paid approximately Rs. 7.83 lakhs to the outside bodies and agencies towards contractual assignments during 1986-87 which are towards cleaning and maintenance, security, packaging, financial consultancy, etc.

Account of overtime paid by ET&T

706. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what amount has been paid by the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Ltd. as overtime allowance during 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): Rs. 2.46 lakhs—From April 1986 to January 1987.

Bank robberies in Punjab

707. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BAN-SAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any breakthrough has been made in the investigations into the bank robberies that were committed in Punjab during the year 1986-87;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the number of persons arrested and amount recovered;

(c) what fresh steps have been taken to improve the security arrangements at banks, particularly in rural areas; and

(d) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to minimise the cash accumulations in banks and, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-ARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that as per available information of bank robberies dacoities that occurred in Punjab during the years 1986 and 1987, in 7 cases 18 culprits have been arrested. Of these, in six cases a sum of Rs. 1.49 lakhs has been recovered.

(c) Bank robberies/dacoities, to a considerable extent, depend on the general security environment in the locality. Depending on the risk factor involved, steps have been taken by banks to appoint security guards, instal appropriate alarm systems, etc. in the branches.

(d) Cash retention limits for bank branches are fixed by the concerned bank. In fixing cash holding limits, several factors, are taken into account, such as, size and location of the branch, volume of business, security environment, etc. The banks, however, review the requirements periodically and try to keep the limits to the minimum necessary.

Visit of the CSIR Review Committee at CSIO, Chandigarh

708. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BAN-SAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CSIR review committee recently visited the Central Scientific Instruments Organisation at Chandigarh on a fact-finding mission;

(b) if so, what are the main points observed and recommendations made by it concerning the CSIO;

(c) whether the Committee also looked into the question of wasteful expenditure and reported victimisation of scientists, as also the deterioration of standards; and

if so, what are finding thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, on August 11, 1986.

(b) The only specific observation on CSIO made by Review Committee is that Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, Chandigarh alongwith Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute, Pilani and Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute, Calcutta would have to mount common programmes to deal with electronics material, miniaturisation of electronics components and development of instrumentation with processing and fabrication.

(c) No, Sir, there is no mention of this in their Report.

(d) Does not arise.

Discontinuance of documentaries by the Films Division

709. **SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of 'Magazine' documentaries incorporating the important events has been discontinued by the Films Division; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are proposed to preserve for posterity the films covering important events and maintain the importance of the Films Division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA):

(a) No such terminology as 'Magazine' documentaries is used in Films Division. It produces both documentaries and news magazines. Production of News magazines incorporating important events has not been discontinued.

(b) Does not arise.

Excise duty on spices

710. **SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALA- NYA:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have recently received representations for the withdrawal of the Excise Duty on Spices and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN- ARDHAN POOJARI): The Government have received representations for withdrawal of excise duty on Spices. These representations are being examined.

Appointment of consultants in ET&T

711. **SHRI MUSTAFA BIN QUASEM: DR. R. K. PODDAR.**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what is the number of consultants appointed by the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited and what is the monthly expenditure borne by the Corporation on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): The number of advisers/consultants appointed by Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation (ET&T) is three.

The monthly expenditure borne by the Corporation is Rs. 13,260 per month (approx.). In addition, ET&T is also paying Rs. 8,670 per month (approx.) towards six consultancy contracts, which are part-time.