

dimension and weight of the consignment which was necessary to plan palletisation in respect of available cargo space. This was ascertained on the basis of enquiry made by the National Council of Science Museums, Calcutta and Air India.

(b) Does not arise.

Rural Population and Rural Labourer below Poverty line

2796. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the percentage of the rural population and rural labourer below the poverty line at the end of Fifth Five Year Plan;

(b) what is the percentage of rural population and rural labourer below the poverty line at the end of Sixth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if the percentage of those below the poverty line has increased, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) has conducted quinquennial Household Consumer Expenditure Surveys in 1977-78 (32nd Round) and 1983 (38th Round). The reports on these Surveys give consumption level for different items by Expenditure class and also the number of Households with their composition by Expenditure class. The results contained in the reports have been utilised by the Planning Commission for the estimation of the percentage and number of people below the poverty line. However, it is not possible to indicate from the results of these surveys the percentage of rural labourers below the poverty line separately as they are reckoned as part of the rural population.

On the basis of these surveys the percentage of rural population (including

rural labour) below the poverty line has been estimated as follows:-

1977-78

Terminal year of the Fifth Plan	51.2% (Revised)
1983-84	40.4% (Provisional)

The figures for the terminal year 1984-85 of the Sixth Plan are not available.

(c) Does not arise.

I.T.D.C. Policy for development of Hotel Industry

2797. SHRI L. GANESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any change in policy of the ITDC in developing its hotel industry during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

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

(c) whether Government propose to construct hotels in collaboration with the private agencies;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what are the cities where Government propose to construct yatri-niwas and hotels during the Seventh Five Year Plan

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) ITDC has at present no proposal to construct hotel projects in collaboration with any private arise.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Subject to availability of funds, the Central Department of Tourism proposes to construct at least one yatri niwas at a selected centre in each state in collaboration with States/Union territories during the VII Plan period.

During VII Five Year Plan ITDC proposes construction of hotels at Agra and Gulmarg besides putting up joint venture

hotel projects at Guwahati, Puri, Bhopal, Ranchi, Pondicherry and Itanagar in collaboration with respective States/State Development Corporations,

Use of foreign smuggled arms in Gujrat Riots

2798. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign smuggled fire arms were used in the recent riots in Gujarat;

(b) whether Government propose to conduct a probe to ascertain the source of supply of such weapons;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, when an enquiry is likely to be conducted, and if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what measures Government have taken to prevent arms smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of the reply at (a) above.

(d) Vigilance on smuggling of arms etc. has been increased and intensified. Co-ordination meetings between security forces and other intelligence agencies at various levels are being regularly held where information is shared and views exchanged to tackle the trans-border offences like smuggling espionage etc. the Customs field formations on the Indo-Pak border remain vigilant. The preventive and intelligence machinery of the Customs department in the region has been reinforced in terms of manpower and equipment. In addition, appropriate anti-smuggling measures are taken

in close coordination with the concerned Central and State Government authorities. The matter is also kept under constant review for appropriate action.

Vaidyalingam Commission

2799. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI KAILASH PATI
MISHRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the former Prime Minister Shri Charan Singh in a letter addressed to him on July 5 last has insisted upon follow-up action to the logical end about the recommendations of the Vaidyalingam Commission against himself and the former Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai instead of shelving them after 5 years and has also demanded similar action upon the findings of the Shah Commission and the Gupta Commission about Maruti Udyog Limited; and

(b) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Even though Justice Vaidyalingam found that there was *prima facie* basis for a regular enquiry in the charges against the family members of the former Prime Minister, Shri Morarji Desai and of the former Home Minister, Shri Charan Singh, it has been decided not to proceed with the matter further as Government does not believe in political vendetta. Government also does not intend to take any action on the reports of the Commissions appointed during the Janata regime. The conclusions reached by the Commissions have already been repudiated by the people as biased, unwarranted and baseless.