

tobacco left with growers in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Action taken against Afghan nationals for illegal activities

982. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 796 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd May, 1983 and state:

(a) whether proceedings in the case against M/s. Brij Trading Company and others have been completed by the adjudicating officer; if so, what orders have been passed against them; and

(b) whether any decision has since been taken with regard to the other Show Cause Notices issued in this regard; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Adjudication proceedings against M/s. Brij Trading Company, Delhi and six persons connected therewith have not yet been completed.

(b) Cases against others will be taken up for hearing by the adjudicating officer after the proceedings in the case referred to above are completed.

Views expressed by President, Asian Development Bank of Indian Economy

983. SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA:

SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN;
DR. SHANTI G. PATEL;
SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI;
SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of the Asian Development Bank during his recent visit to India advised Government to augment its resources and make proper and judicious use of foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, in his eighth

silver jubilee memorial lecture to the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, the President of the ADB has said that Asian Governments should increasingly aim at raising savings and allocating them to productive use.

Inspection report on Punjab and Sind Bank

984. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1718 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th March, 1983 and state:

(a) whether the Inspection Team appointed by the Reserve Bank to go into the affairs of Punjab and Sind Bank has since submitted its Report;

(b) if so, whether Government will lay a copy of the report on the Table of the House;

(c) whether it is a fact that the recommendation of the Team for dismantling the "clique" represented by the senior management of the Bank has not been adhered to and promotions were given to these senior management personnel; and

(d) if so, what were the considerations for which the Bank ignored such a vital recommendation of the Reserve Bank?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Inspection Reports of Reserve Bank of India on Public Sector Banks are treated as Confidential and are not published or laid on the Table of the House in public interest.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The appointments/promotions have been made in accordance with the provisions of the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1970 and 1980 and in accordance with the rules governing conditions of service.

Questionable letter of credit for import of Beaf Tallow and Pig Tallow established by Punjab and Sind Bank

985. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a letter of credit for Rs. 14 crores for the import of

beef-tallow was established by the New Bank of India under questionable circumstances;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Chairman and the General Manager of the New Bank of India have since been relieved of their charge and have been directed to quit;

(c) whether Government are aware that similar letters of credit for the import of beef-tallow and pig-tallow had also been established by the Punjab and Sind Bank under the same questionable circumstances; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken against the management of the Punjab and Sind Bank?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-ARDHANA POOJARY): (a) The matter is under investigation by the CBI.

(b) The Chairman and the General Manager are presently on leave.

(c) and (d) The case relating to the opening of Letter of Credit by Punjab and Sind Bank is being looked into by the Reserve Bank of India.

Licences granted to the Customs House Agents

986. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1652 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th March, 1983 and state:

(a) the number of licences granted so far during the current year under the Customs House Agent Licensing Regulation, 1965 at Delhi Airport; and

(b) the action being taken to grant the remaining number of licences so that the export business is effectively helped and regulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) During the current Financial Year 14 CHA Licences have been issued under Regulation 11 of the CHA Regulations 1965. Apart from this 1 CHA Licence has been issued under Regulation 14 of the CHA Regulations 1965.

(b) Further Licences will be issued as and when it is felt that the volume of work requires licensing more Custom House Agents.

Amendment of Custom House Agents Licensing Regulations 1965

987. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend wholesale the Customs House Agents Licensing Regulations, 1965;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the salient features of the proposed amendments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The question of amending the Custom House Agents Licensing Regulation 1965 is under the consideration of the Central Board of Excise & Customs.

(b) and (c) This is in view of criticism that the existing Regulations vested unfettered power with the Collectors of Customs regarding grant of Custom House Agents Licences. It had also been suggested by Field Officers that a restriction on the number of licences operating lead to various malpractices. It is proposed to liberalise the grant of new licences so as to authorise applicants who *prima-facie* have the resources to cater to the requirement of the trade to work for a year and then to be judged by their performance during this one year period.

Selection of light transport aircraft

988. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 285 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th July, 1983 and state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the report submitted by the Negotiating Committee on selection of a common light transport aircraft for meeting the requirements of Civil and Defence services;

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