

In the case of M/s Ahmedabad Advance Mills, the duty demand was for a total amount of Rs. 144 lacs. The duty demands for Rs. 90.77 lacs against the Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company and for Rs. 144 lacs against M/s Ahmedabad Advance Mills, were withdrawn by the Custom Houses.

The question also seeks information about the "other firms". As no names of the "other firms" have been given, it is presumed that the information required is in respect of the concessions given in cases of the type mentioned in part (a) above—that is to say, where *ad hoc* exemptions were given after the demands had been raised for customs duty short levied. The case of another firm M/s Maddi Venkatratnam and Company Private Limited fell in this category, wherein the Madras Custom House had raised a duty demand for a total sum of Rs. 13 lacs. The *ad hoc* order was issued in this case on the 29th June, 1977, exempting a part of the consignment which, after reimportation, had been exported out of India, from the whole of the duty leviable thereon and exempting the remaining part, which had been destroyed as unfit for human consumption, from the customs duty in excess of Rs. 5/- per kg. In this case, however, the demand has not so far been withdrawn.

(c) The matter concerning the scope of Section 25(2) of the Customs Act, 1962, is under examination.

#### Abolition of 'P' Form requirement

1087. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently abolished the 'P' Form requirement for those going abroad and have made further liberalisation in the passport rules; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes Sir. Government have recently decided to abolish the 'P' form requirement for those going abroad. However, no further liberalisation, as a result of the abolition of 'P' form, has been made in the passport rules.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India will shortly issue instructions to airlines/shipping companies and travel agents for booking of passages, indicating the procedure to be followed after the abolition of the 'P' form.

1974 की रेल हड़ताल के दौरान महालेखाकार कार्यालय, शिमला के कर्मचारियों को सेवा से हटाया जाना

1088. श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को जानकारी है कि 1974 में रेलवे कर्मचारियों द्वारा की गयी हड़ताल के समर्थन में हड़ताल में भाग लेने के आरोप पर महालेखाकार कार्यालय, शिमला के 10 कर्मचारियों को सेवा से निकाल दिया गया था ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि हड़ताल में भाग लेने वाले रेल कर्मचारियों को पुनः सेवा में ले लिया गया है परन्तु महालेखाकार कार्यालय, शिमला के उक्त कर्मचारियों को अभी भी सेवा में नहीं लिया गया है ; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय ने नवम्बर, 1974 में ही इन कर्मचारियों को बहाल करने के आदेश जारी कर दिये थे ?