

Demurrage charges paid by MMTC

1056. SHRI DHARAM CHAN©
JAIN: SHRI DAYANAND
SAHAYA: SHRI
SITARAM KESRI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of demurrage charges paid by the MMTC on imports during the periods from the 1st January to 31st December, 1977 and from the 1st January to 30th June, 1978, port-wise, along with the names of the ships;

(b) whether Government have fixed responsibility for the payment of the demurrage; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to avoid such losses in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) A statement showing the amount of demurrage paid by MMTC, port-wise, along with the names of ships for the year 1977 and for the first quarter of 1978 is attached.

(b) The main reason for incurring demurrage at discharge ports is berthing delay due to congestion and as such the question of fixing responsibility does not arise.

(c) The matter is being looked into by the concerned Ministry".

Statement

Demurrage charges paid on sulphur/rock phosphate vessels during the period 1-1-1977 to 31-12-1977

Sl. No.	Name of vessels and date of arrival	Allotted on ex-jetty basis	Remarks
1	2	3	4
		(Rupees)	
BOMBAY			
1	Indian Reliance 15-5-77	1,59,777.78	10 days berthing delayed.
2	Klio 20-7-77	1,49,274.90	21 days berthing delayed.
3	Psara 21-9-77	1,33,268.57	18 days berthing delayed.
4	Rue Sing 25-10-77	39,730.50	9 days delay in berthing.
5	Victory Ocean	4,466.26	7 days delay in berthing.
6	Aristides Xilas 28-12-77	1,630.13	4 days delay in berthing.
7	Indian Reliance 15-6-77	1,01,066.66	Delay in berthing
CALCUTTA			
1	Indian Reliance 13-7-77	95,622.21	Delay in berthing
		6,84,837.01	

1	2	3	4
7-1-1978 to 31-3-1978			
BOMBAY			
1	Kotapuri 26-2-78	2,38,707.00	19 days delay in berthing.
2	United Faith 5-3-78	5,21,074.05	21 days delay in berthing.
3	Star Fortune 27-3-78	1,43,943.72	15 days delay in berthing.
		9,03,724.77	

The details of demurrage charges paid by the Corporation during the period April, 1978, to June, 1978, are not readily available.

Complaints against the Greaves International

1057. SHRI BHABANI CHARAN PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint against the Greaves International, a subsidiary of the Greaves Cotton Company Limited to the effect that it is using as a cover M/s. Puri Marine Products of Puri and New India Fisheries in Paradip for coastal and deep sea fishing and procuring agencies for them and enjoying credit facilities from the banks;

(b) whether it is a fact that the money which has been advanced against the Letter of Credit for direct export has been misused by the Puri Marine Products; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the money made available to the exporters by Government is meant to encourage indigenous companies?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir, Complaint was received from the Hon'ble Member.

(b) The Government have no such information.

(c) The subsidies and assistance given by Government applies to all exporters.

Payment of full amount when the L. C. is opened

1058. SHRI BHABANI CHARAN TATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether banks are authorised to pay the full amount when a Letter of Credit is opened;

(b) whether Government are aware of any violation of the rules and regulations relating to the Letters of Credit by any bank during the last three years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

When a letter of credit is established the seller of goods who is the beneficiary of the letter of credit, is entitled to get from the bank the full amount provided that the bank is satisfied that all the terms and conditions stipulated by the buyer have been complied with by the seller.

(b) and (c) The business of opening of letters of credit is governed by a uniform code of practice entitled "Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits" laid down by the International Chamber of Commerce. As this is not a legislation,