

Iron-ore agreement

*464. SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA
MAHANTI: SHRI MULKA
GOVINDA
REDDY; SHRI S. W. DHABE;
SHRIMATI SUMITRA G.
KULKARNI: SHRIMATI
AZIZA IMAM;

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) the names of the countries with which India has entered into agreements for export of iron ore;

(b) when these agreements were last revised; and

(c) which are the countries which have not agreed to increase the price in spite of the rise in the iron ore price in international market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (POF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Export of Iron Ore at present is being made against (i) long term (ii) short term and (iii) spot contracts to Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan, in the Far East and Rumania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and Hungary, Iraq and some West European countries. These contracts are reviewed and prices re-negotiated on an annual basis. Price realisation depends on physical and chemical specification of iron ore; facilities in terms of draft at the ports and the rate of loading. In this context prices obtained by India are on International levels.

(c) None.

Evasion of excise duty by Bata and Co. Ltd.

*465. SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA
GOWDA: SHRI KALYAN
ROY; SHRI BIR CHANDRA
DEB
BURMAN: SHRI B.
K. MAHANTI:

Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the systematic cheating of excise duty by Bata and Co. Limited;

(b) if so, what is the amount of evasion of excise duty by this Company during the last three years;

(c) what steps Government have taken to realise this amount;

(d) whether any member of the top management of the Company, including its Directors, have been arrested for this economic offence; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government are not aware of systematic cheating of excise duty by Bata & Co. Ltd. However, the Public Accounts Committee have in their 177th Report referred to the advantage taken by the Company of an exemption notification on manufacture by small factories. This is under consideration of Government.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Dividend declared on L.I.C. policies

*466. SHRI JAGDISH JOSHI;
SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: SHRI
KASIM ALI ABID: SHRI KHURSHED
ALAM KHAN; Will the Minister of
FINANCE be pleased to state: