

(b) whether Government have filed appeal in the Supreme Court to vacate Stay Orders in the 90 writ petitions if so, when;

(c) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Special Cell has also investigated into the various malpractices of Sahu Jain concerns regarding evasion of taxes; if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Three companies and 19 directors Principal Officers are involved in the 407 prosecutions which have been filed in the 'Bajoria Jalan Group' of cases. The proceedings at Calcutta in respect of 371 prosecutions have been stayed by the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate as a result of writ petition challenging that Directors of Companies are not the Principal Officers. In addition, an application has been moved that all the prosecutions may be centralised with one trial Magistrate.

Two of the 36 prosecution applications filed at Bombay have been dismissed by the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate. Against these, revision petitions are being filed before the Bombay High Court.

(b) and (c) 90 writ petitions have been filed in 'Birla Group' of cases. On the admission of the writ petitions by the respective High Courts and the issue of the Rule Nisi, interim stay of proceedings was ordered pending determination by the Courts whether assessment/ reassessment proceedings were initiated validly and with proper jurisdiction. In order to have the question of jurisdiction settled expeditiously, an application was moved in a representative case for hearing the cases by a Division Bench. The prayer has since been granted and the case is now posted for hearing on 19-5-75 before a Division Bench of the Calcutta High Court.

(d) The Special Cell are investigating the Shriyans Prasad Jain Group known as 'Sahu Group'. The investigations are in progress.

Purchase of Jute by Jute Corporation of India in Assam

♦321. SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India from the growers of Assam during 1974-75;

(b) the quantity the Jute Corporation of India proposes to purchase from Assam during the current year;

(c) whether any advance has been made to the jute growers during the current season; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) and (b) Total purchase of raw jute by Jute Corporation of India from Assam during 1974-75 is 1.31 lakh bales.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the posts of Assistant Commissioners of Income-Tax

*322. SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE. SHRI B. RACHAIAH : SHRI B. R. MUNDA : SHRI KHYOMO LOTHIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the posts of Assistant Commissioners of Income-tax are to be filled shortly by promotion;

(b) if so, whether reservation is to be provided for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the posts on the prescribed percentage basis; and

(c) what is the number of such vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) No proposal to make selections for promotion to posts of Assistant Commissioners of Income-tax, is at present under consideration. When such a proposal is taken up for consideration, the relevant orders of the Government providing for concessions in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes officers will, as in the past, be duly kept in view. The concessions provided in the matter of selections for promotion to posts" of Assistant Commissioners, do not include any reservation on percentage basis in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Take-over of Jute Industry

*323. DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI:
SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY:
SHRI NABIN CHANDRA
BURAGOHAIN:
SHRI K. B. CHETTRI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Mill owners are pressurising Government for reduction of duties and asking for subsidies under the plea of lay-off and retrenchment of Jute workers in West Bengal.

(b) if so, whether Government propose to immediately nationalise the whole Jute industry in the country which is still making enormous profits and at the same time pressurising Government for more advantages; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) Indian Jute Mills Association had represented for abolition of export duties on carpet backing and Hessian and also for grant of cash Assistance.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government does not consider it necessary to nationalise the jute industry for the present.

Study of report on Energy Sector

*280. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHAN-
KAR ADIVAREKAR :
SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY :
SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-
DARA MENON:
SHRIMATI MARGARET
ALVA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has submitted any study report on the energy sector of India;

(b) if so, what are the main findings and recommendations thereof; and

(c) what is Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and

(b) The World Bank makes a study every year of the Indian economy. Such studies are prepared by the World Bank for its internal official use only.

(c) Since the report was prepared for the internal use of the World Bank, the question of a Government decision on it does not arise. It is, however, the Government's policy to make optimum use of its available energy resources.

Development of Tourist Centres in Maharashtra

826. SHRI DEORAO PATIL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of important centres of tourist attraction in Maharashtra already developed during 1974-75;

(b) the names of those tourist centres which have potential for development; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take for their development?

†Transferred from the 12th May, 1975.