

HANDLING OF EXPORT OF FILMS BY STC

772. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation propose to look after the export of Indian films to the South East Asian and African countries ;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal, and the contemplated volume of such exports during the ensuing year ; and

(c) whether this arrangement is also aimed at preventing the smuggling of Indian films to these countries ; if so, the specific steps contemplated in that direction ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b) In principle we have decided to take over the export of films in public sector. Only details are being worked out. It would be difficult to estimate at this stage the likely volume of exports during the ensuing year.

(c) Yes, Sir. It is expected that canalisation of Export of Films will considerably reduce smuggling of Indian films abroad.

MISUSE OF LICENCES FOR IMPORT OF POLYESTER FILAMENT YARN

773. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item appearing in the Financial Express dated the 15th April, 1972 to the effect that few licences had been issued for the import of polyester filament yarn to persons and organisations who were not the actual users ;

(b) if so, the number of such licences issued so far and their value ;

(c) what checks Government have devised to prevent misuse of such licences ; and

(d) whether issue of such licences is a departure from the usual practice of issuing licences only to actual users after they are sponsored by the Textile Commissioner, and if so, the reasons for making this departure ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (d) The news item in question has come to Government's notice. The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

POSTS IN ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

774. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of permanent posts in various grades in the Election Commission of India which have not so far been filled and since when they are lying vacant ;

(b) the number of persons in various grades who were recruited through U. P. S. C. and have successfully completed the probation period ;

(c) whether these persons have since been confirmed if not, the reasons therefor and when they are likely to be confirmed ; and

(d) whether Government are aware of the resentment among the staff on this account and if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remove their resentment by confirming them against permanent vacancies at an early date ?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) : (a) Appointment to permanent posts in all grades in the Election Commission have been made either in a substantive or a temporary capacity.

(b) Assistants 9

Lower Division Clerks 18

(c) Assistants—all confirmed.

Lower Division Clerks—3 have been confirmed. Ten more permanent posts against which confirmation can be made have not yet been filled in a substantive capacity. The question of regularisation of the appointments of certain Lower Division Clerks who have been working in the Commission on *ad hoc* basis for a number of years is under consideration. If these *ad hoc* appointments are regularised, it may become necessary to review the

entire position of seniority of temporary lower division clerks for the purpose of confirmation against the ten available permanent posts.

(d) The confirmation of the remaining 15 lower division clerks against available permanent vacancies will be considered after a decision on the regularisation of the appointments of the *ad hoc* lower division clerks is taken.

PROPOSAL FOR SPEEDING UP LONG DISTANCE TRAINS

775. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for speeding up the long distance trains was under the consideration of Government ;

(b) whether a final decision has since been taken thereon ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The speed of following trains was increased from 1.11.1971 :

Howrah-Delhi Rajdhani Express from 120 km. p. h. to 130 km. p. h.

No. 1/2 Howrah-Delhi Mail from 100 km. p. h. to 110 km. p. h.

No. 3/4 Bombay-Delhi Mail from 100 km. p. h. to 110 km. p. h.

No. 1/2 Bombay-Howrah Mail from 100 km. p. h. to 110 km. p. h.

No. 15/16 Grant Trunk Express from 100 km. p. h. to 110 km. p. h.

From 17.5. '72 Bombay-Delhi Rajdhani has been introduced at 120 km. p. h.

INDIAN INVESTMENTS IN VENTURES ABROAD

776. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be

pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of Indian capital invested in industrial ventures abroad during the last three years ;

(b) the details regarding the profits and dividends remitted to India during this period ; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that profits and dividends are remitted to India in time and in full ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) During the last three years, Government of India has approved the investment of about Rupees Six crores by Indian entrepreneurs in joint ventures abroad in the shape of machinery and equipment exported from India, technical know-how etc.

(b) According to information received, an amount of Rs. 49.27 lakhs has so far been earned in foreign exchange by way of dividends.

(c) One of the conditions of the approvals accorded for participation in joint ventures abroad enjoins on the Indian participant to repatriate the earnings to India. They are required to submit periodical reports about their earnings and remittances.

EXPORT OF JUTE PRODUCTS

777. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of export of jute products in terms of value and tonnage in 1970-71 and 1971-72, country-wise ; and

(b) the target for export of this item in 1972-73 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Quantity—750,000 tonnes.

Value —Rs. 250 crores.