

**AMMOUNT DUE TO KERALA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION FROM RAILWAYS**

227. SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the reasons for which the balance of Rs. 101.33 lakhs payable to the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation by the Railways as per the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950 has not yet been paid ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : According to the Road transport Corporations Act, 1950, capital for the Corporations set up under this Act may be contributed by the State Government and the Central Government in such proportion as may be agreed upon by both the Governments. Under the existing arrangement between the Ministry of Railways and the Kerala State Government, no such amount is due to the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation. As such the question of payment of this amount does not arise.

**EXPORT OF COFFEE THROUGH S.T.C**

228. SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that export trade of coffee is monopolised by a few private exporters who have formed themselves into a sort of syndicate to buy Indian Coffee at low rates export it at high prices; and

(b) whether Government propose to entrust the export of coffee to S. T. C.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir. Coffee for export is sold in open auctions. Any person or firm desirous of participating in export auctions can register their names with the Coffee board and obtain a permit after fulfilling certain pre-requisites regarding security deposits and bank guarantees.

(b) At present there are 20 registered exporters who are free to participate in auctions and purchase quantity required for export and undertake export trade. State Trading Corporation of India is one of the registered exporters.

**ACCUMULATION OF UNMARKETED COFFEE.**

229. SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that over 20,000 tons of coffee from the 1970-71 coffee-pool remained to be marketed at the end of December 1971 ; and

(b) whether Government have considered stopping further extension of coffee cultivation in the interest of the large number of coffee growers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. As India is a member of the International Coffee organisation, the matter needs careful consideration in the light of the objectives of this Organisation and the Production goals approved for India.

**DETERIORATION OF COFFEE WITH INDIAN COFFEE BOARD.**

230. SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that over 9,000 tons of coffee received by the Indian Coffee Board in 1970-71 has deteriorated ;

(b) the estimated loss to the growers on this account ;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted to fix responsibility for this loss, if so, with what result; and

(d) the steps that Government propose to take to prevent deterioration of coffee with the Coffee Board ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (d) A statement containing the required information is attached.

STATEMENT (a) A survey of coffee stocks has shown

that about 5,600 tonnes of old coffee crop in the Pool was below Fair Average Quality which could be for the following reasons:--

- (i) Coffee itself may be of inferior type.
  - (ii) Deterioration already set in at the time of the delivery to the Pool.
  - (iii) Delay in curing due to the heavy crop of last year.
  - (iv) Slight deterioration due to long storage.
  - (v) Inherent defect in the coffee itself.
- (b) In view of the above the question of any loss to the growers does not arise.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) In order to improve the quality of Indian coffee, the Coffee Board has appointed a technical committee with the following terms of reference :—
- (i) Assessment of curing capacity.
  - (ii) Precautionary steps to be taken at estate level, at curing works and at the time of storage etc.

#### REPORT OF TARIFF COMMISSION

231. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYANA-RAYANA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for which Government have not so far released the report of the Tariff Commission on price and supply of yarn which was submitted to them during June, 1970; and

(b) the time by when the report is likely to be released ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member refers to the Tariff Commission's report on viscose/acetate filament yarn. The Commission's report was received by the Government in April, 1970. The Government's views on the various recommendations made in the report

are being finalised and it is expected that the final decision will be announced soon.

#### TRADE AGREEMENT WITH IRAN

232. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYA NARAYANA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any trade delegation from Iran visited India during September, 1971; and

(b) whether any trade agreement between India and Iran has been reached ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A Trade Agreement between India and Iran was concluded on March 11, 1964, which has been extended from time to time. It was last extended upto March 10, 1972. The question of extending the Trade Agreement further will be considered in consultation with the Government of Iran. A copy of the Agreement has already been placed in the Parliament Library.

#### COMPENSATION PAID FOR PILFERAGE OF GOODS IN TRANSIT

233. SHRI VENIGALLA SATYA NARAYANA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of compensation paid by North Frontier Railway for pilferage of goods in transit to various parties in Assam, West Bengal, Bihar and U. P. during 1970 and 1971 ;

(b) the improvement recorded in this field after the steps announced by him in his last Budget\* speech;

(c) whether railway employees have been found to be involved in such pilferages and if so, the extent of their involvement during 1971 and 1971 ; and

(d) whether Government are aware of the existence of some gangs who in collusion with railway employees have been claiming compensation from the Railways on various pretexts ?