

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE / शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a) The All India Council of Sports will be reconstituted very soon.

(b) Anxiety of the Government for giving proper representation in the Council to outstanding Sportsmen and weeding out those who were primarily interested in Sports Politics. For this a detailed enquiry was necessary.

DEVELOPMENT OF SHIPPING FACILITIES

828. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT / संसदीय कार्य तथा नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री be pleased to state the steps so far taken by Government for the development of shipping facilities, particularly in view of the limitations imposed by the Shipping Conference with which India is concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT / संसदीय कार्य तथा नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री (SHRI RAJ

BAHADUR) : For the development of shipping facilities, Government has taken several steps, such as grant of loans on concessional terms for acquisition of additional tonnage, grant of development rebate, facilities for acquisition of ships on rupee payment basis from countries like USSR, G.D.R., Yugoslavia, Poland etc., with the result that the Indian tonnage has increased from 1.92 lakhs GRT on the eve of Independence to 25 lakhs GRT as on 1-11-1971. Further, as far as possible, Government owned/controlled cargo is allocated to Indian ships. Bilateral Shipping Services have also been introduced under bilateral shipping agreements between India-USSR; India-Arab Republic of Egypt; India-Poland; and India-German Democratic Republic. Entry of Indian lines into shipping conferences has enabled India to secure at present about 40% share of liner cargo traffics.

SUGAR POLICY

829. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE / कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to review the existing sugar policy; and
(b) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE / कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government are continuously keeping a watch on the position of stock and prices of sugar and a review of the existing sugar policy at present is not considered necessary.

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT POLICY

830. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE / कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to devise a new scheme in respect of agricultural credit to suit the needs of small, medium and big farmers;

(b) if so, what are the main features of this scheme; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE / कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI ANNA-SAHEB SHINDE) : (a) to (c) The Government policy as outlined in the 4th Plan is to orient the loaning policies and procedures of the major institutional credit agencies i.e. cooperatives, in favour of smaller cultivators. The cooperatives have been advised to give priority to the smaller cultivators if the total available resources are limited. The larger cultivators are to be given medium-term credit for agricultural investment so that long-term credit would be available to the smaller cultivators. The share-capital is also to be collected from the smaller cultivators in easy instalments. The Reserve Bank of India have introduced a system of earmarking the credit limits sanctioned to Central Cooperative Banks, upto 20% for the small and economically weaker farmers. They have also permitted issue of medium-term loans upto Rs 2,000, without security, provided satisfactory marketing arrangements are made. In the new Central Sector Scheme of SFDA and MFAL, provision have been made for payment of risk fund to

the cooperatives towards additional advances to the small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers.

2 The nationalised commercial banks are also being encouraged to increase their advances to the weaker sections. The Credit Guarantee Corporation has introduced a scheme of guarantee of small loans given by scheduled commercial banks to specified weaker sections with effect from 1st April, 1971.

3 The Agricultural Refinance Corporation also provides 100% refinance for schemes taken up in the SFDA MFAL areas. Under the World Bank Credit Projects undertaken through the A.R.C. also, concessional terms are provided for small farmers, for investment upto Rs. 10,000

AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS

831. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to reduce the number of agricultural experts from abroad and also to reduce their period of stay in India ;

(b) if so, how many such experts are there ; and

(c) the total monthly expenditure incurred on them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE/कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI ANNA-SAHEB SHINDE) : (a) It has been the policy of the Government of India to have the minimum of the foreign experts in the country. Proposals for foreign experts are, therefore, scrutinised very minutely and, requests are made only where absolutely essential for a particular programme and only for the period considered necessary.

(b) 226 experts.

(c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

REPORT ON FOREIGN BOOK FACTS

832. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND

SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a survey report regarding foreign book facts was submitted to Government by Shri U. S. Mohan Rao, former Director of Publications Division ;

(b) if so, what are its main recommendations ; and

(c) how many of them have been accepted by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) A report on publishing, printing and demand of book on science and technology by Shri U. S. Mohan Rao was submitted to the Union Government.

(b) A copy of the report is available in the Library of Parliament

(c) The report has been referred to various concerned authorities for comments which are awaited.

SERVICES OF GUIDES AT ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONUMENTS

833. SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that innumerable guides at the sites of archaeological monuments like Taj, Fatehpur Sikri, Agra Fort, are doing disservice to the promotion of tourism by their irksome tactics to extract maximum from the tourists ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government proposes to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) There are only 75 guides licensed by the Archaeological Survey of India for the monuments at Agra and Fatehpur Sikri—37 for Taj and Agra Fort, 2 for Itmadudaula, 8 for