long-term raily do not enter into trade agreements, and particularly most of the West European countries, the U.K., they do not the U.S. and have a formal agreement. That does not mean that the trade arrangements are not there. There was no particular point which came against this. It is not the tradition to have agreement with these countries. neither on our side nor on their side.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH: Apart from other items there is a possibility of entering into business with Australia for chemicals. May I know what items are included in these chemicals? Will the hon. Minister please dilate on this?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Dyestuffs in which the hon. Member is interested could be exported to Australia. There are many other chemicals. heavy chemicals some of the persides some of the paints and pharmaceuticals, etc. As a matter of fact it is a new continent emerging almost as rich as or richer than U.S.A. I would like the chemicals manufacturers of India to sell more and more in the Australian market.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: According to the statement laid on the Table the hon. Minister had drawn their attention in Australia to the difficulties of the Indian exporters arising from the Australian practice in relation to the valuation of goods for the assessment of duty. May I ask hon. Minister if this fact is not a negation of the international agreements on tariff and may I know the attention of the Australian Government was drawn to this fact that it is not conformity with the current practice?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: This is a practice which is against all international policies of trade accepted throughout the world in international conferences. But this is an ancient

practice adopted by Australia which was there even before the GATT was enforced, and this has been protected and saved by protocols. This dates back to a pre-GATT period, something like 1885 or so: We have drawn the repeated attention of Australia and Canada that this type of valuation—what was valid in those years before 1950 or 1960—should no more hold good and that they should revise them.

SCHEME TO PROVIDE INCREASED FINAN-CIAL ASSISTANCE TO SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

\*247. SHRI S. C. DEB: Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is preparing a scheme to provide increased financial assistance to small scale industries; and
- (b) if so, the details of the scheme and how it is going to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE INDUSTRY MINISTRY OF AND SUPPLY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA): (a) and (b) A working Group appointed by Ministry of Industry and Supply is looking into the question of fourth plan targets and the financial provision which might be needed for development of small scale industries during the fourth plan period. As the Working Group has not yet come to any definite conclusion it is not possible at this stage to give any details in this regard.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know when this Working Group will give its report and when it will be possible to have it laid on the Table of the House?

SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA: It is expected that the report will be given by the first week of June. After the report is submitted naturally on the basis of it some discussions with the Planning Commission will start and further discussions will follow.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: When the Plan frame for the Second Plan was formulated. Prof Mahalanobis pointed out that the small-scale industries would have a very important part to play and that proper allocation should be made, and he suggested Rs. 400 The amount was reduced to Rs. 200 crores. That is how it is being reduced. May I know whether the Government has considered, apart from the Study Groups and so on, the question of giving adequate assistance for the development of small-scale industries specially in the underdeveloped regions and may I know whether it is not a fact that the State Governments concerned have time and again made representation to the Government for adequate assistance, which is not forthcoming?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: It is true that we have not been able to provide all the assistance that should be given to the small sector, but at the same time I can assure the House that during these ten or fifteen years there has been a phenomenal growth of this sector in the country. In regard to further assistance, apart from whatever may be decided by the Working Group, we are also considering in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India a method of giving loan assistance to a number of small industries and obviating some of the difficulties which they generally find.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Will the Government take into consideration the merits of individuals starting smallscale industries while giving financial assistance and doing away with the present practice of refusing loans for want of surety and other technicalities which ultimately deny timely help to the entrepreneurs coming from poor families?

SHRI T. N. SINGH: That is one of the problems which has to be tackled. But then on the question of security, it should not be so rigidly enforced: but it should be remembered that these are all financial organisations which are giving loans, and we should not try to deviate too much or very far away from certain accepted requirements or norms of financial institutions.

श्री देवकीनन्दन नारायण : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कपा करेंगे कि स्माल स्केल इण्डस्टीज के लिए जो फाइनेन्स दिया जाता है, उसके द्वारा बढे बडे शहरों में ही इस तरह की इण्डस्टीज खल रही हैं और अधिकतर धन बड़े बड़े शहरों में ही पहुंच रहा है जब कि स्माल स्केल इण्डस्ट्रीज का मतलब डिसेण्ट्रलाइजेशन का है ? तो क्या ग्रागे यह तजवीज की जायेगी कि इस तरह की इण्डस्ट्रीज गांवों और छोटे छोटे शहरों में खलें और जो लोग वहां खोलना चाहते हैं उन्हें प्रेफेरेंस दिया जाये ?

भी टी० एन० सिंह : इसके लिए हम विशेष प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं कि छोटी छोटी इण्डस्टीज गांव में श्रीर दर स्थानों में खलें। सभी तक का जो तजब है वह यह है कि जो लोग इस तरह की इण्ड-स्टीज खोलते हैं वे शहरों में ही जाते हैं भीर इस बारे में कोई जबर्दस्ती नहीं की जा सकती है। लेकिन उन लागों को जो गांवों में इण्डस्ट्रीज खोलना चाहते है, उन्हें हर किस्म का बढ़ावा दिया जाता है, कोशिश की जाती है कि वे गांवों में खोलें श्रीर यह कोशिश बराबर जारी है।

श्री राम कुमार भुवालका : स्माल स्केल इण्डस्ट्रीज वालों को कितना नीन दिया गया है ?

श्री टी० एन० सिंह: इसके बारे में कहना मुश्किल है; क्योंकि मेरे पास फिगर्म नहीं हैं।

श्री ए० बी० वाजपेयी: जो सहायता श्रीर धन-राशि छोटे उद्योगो के विकास तथा सुविधा के लिए दो जाती है वह श्रीधकारियों की मिलीभगत की वजह से बड़े उद्योगों को पहुंच जाती है। क्या इस तरह की शिकायत माननीय मंत्री जी को लुधियाना के बारे में नहीं मिली श्रौर क्या उन्होंने इसके बारे में कोई जाच की ?

श्री टी॰ एन॰ सिंह : कुछ शिकायतें आती है, लेकिन मैं इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि जो प्रफसर छोटे छोटे उद्योगों में काम कर रहे हैं। सुधियाना की बात प्रलग हो सकती है, लेकिन मैंने कई जगहों पर देखा कि ये अफसर छोटे उद्योगों को बढावा देने के लिए लगन से काम कर रहे है ग्रीर इस तरह किटिसाइज करने से काम ग्रागे नहीं बढ़ सकता है; क्योंकि वे लोग ग्राच्छ। काम कर रहे हैं।

شری جی - ایم - مهر - مهر انریبل منستر سے یه پوچهنا چاهتا هوں که آپ کی سخت پالیسی کی. وجه سے جو فائدہ چهوتے کارخانه داروں کو پہنچنا چاهئے تها وہ ان داروں کو پہنچ امیر کارخانه داروں کو پہنچ رہا ہے جیسا که ابهی مدستر ساھب نے کہا - تو ان وجوعات کو دیکھتے ہوئے غریب کارخانه داروں کو فائدہ پہنچے اس بارے میں منستر ساحب پہنچے اس بارے میں منستر ساحب کوئی لینینت ویو لینے کی تجویح

† शि जी ॰ एम ॰ मीर : मैं श्रानरेबल मिनिस्टर से यह पूछना चाहता हू कि श्रापकी सख्त पालिसी की वजह से जो फायदा छोटे कारखानेदारों को पहुंचना चहिये था, गरीब कारखानेदारों को पहुंचना चाहिये था, वह उनकी बजाय श्रमीर कारखानेदारों को पहुंच रहा है जैसा कि ग्रभी जवाब में मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा। तो इन वजूहात को देखते हुए गरीब कारखाने दारों को फायदा पहुचे इस बारे में मिनिस्टर साहब कोई लिनिएन्ट वियू लेने की तजबीज करेगे या नहीं?

to Questions

श्री टी॰ एन॰ सिंह : नहीं, यह कहना बिलकुल गलत होगा कि हमारी पालिसी किसी तरह से छोटे कारखानेदारों की तरफ से वैसी नहीं है, जैसी होनी चाहिये। हम लोग उनको पूरी मदद करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन मदद के ग्रलावा छोटी इडस्ट्रीज के बहुत से ग्रीर दूसरे मतले हैं, जो रास्ते में ग्राते हैं। हमें उनको समझना है ग्रीर यह खयाल है कि मैं इस बारे में मेम्बरों से मुझाव ल्। इसके कई जटिल मसले है ग्रीर मैं तो चाहता हूं कि एक दिन इस पर ग्रगर जरूरत ग्राप समझे तो बात भी हो जाये जिसमे हाऊस की राय से हमको फायदा मिले।

\*72. [The questioner (Shri Babu bhai M. Chinai) was absent. For answer, vide col. 1814 infra.]

Downgrading of posts of Station Masters

\*248. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about seventy-two posts of Station Masters on the Southern Railway, now in grade<sub>S</sub> Rs. 250/380 and above have recently been downgraded to lower scales; and

<sup>†[ ]</sup> Hindi transliteration