

TRANSPORT OF DETONATORS

300. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made recently by the Indian Mining Federation to the Chief Inspector of Explosives, Nagpur, for granting permission to transport detonators in luggage booths of private cars in view of shortage of transport facilities; and

(b) if so, whether permission has been given and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

ENTRY IN THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA REGARDING JAMMU AND KASHMIR

308. DR. NIHAR RANJAN RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that pages 65-66 of Vol. XXIV of the latest edition, of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, as available in India, purporting to contain the entry relating to Jammu and Kashmir, are smeared over in jet black;

(b) if so, who gave the authority to smear those pages and why; and

(c) what were the contents of the original entry?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

EXTENSION OF COMPANIES ACT, 1956, TO J. & K. STATE

323. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Companies Act, 1956, has been extended to the State of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the difficulties in the way of its application to that State; and

(c) by what time are those difficulties expected to be removed and the Act applied to that State?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY in THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) Yes, Sir, with effect from the 1st November, 1956 but only to the extent to which the provisions of the Act relate to the incorporation, regulation and winding up of banking, insurance and financial corporations, in that State.

(b) and (c) The provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, can be made applicable to all other classes of companies registered in the State only with the concurrence of the Jammu & Kashmir Government in view of the provisions of Article 370 (1) (b) (ii) of the Constitution. The Government of India have on more than one occasion urged on the Jammu & Kashmir Government the desirability of extending the provisions of the Companies Act to all classes of companies in the State, but the Jammu and Kashmir Government have not yet agreed to accept this suggestion.

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A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri A. M. Tariq to raise a point of privilege.