

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

CUSTOMS DUTIES ON GOODS BROUGHT BY INDIAN REPATRIATES FROM MOZAMBIQUE

45. SHRI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have decided not to charge any customs duty on the goods brought by the Indian repatriates from Mozambique;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Customs authorities at Bombay have recently seized their goods for the non-payment of such duty; and

(c) if so, when the Government of India revised the earlier decision in this regard and whether it was notified to the person concerned? /.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI) : (a) and (b) All goods imported by Indian repatriates from Mozambique have not been exempted from payment of customs duty. The duty exemption, right from the beginning, extends only to the movable property, personal effects and household goods brought by the repatriates but does not include goods such as automobiles, Stock-in-trade or merchandise either possessed by them in Mozambique or purchased en-route. Hence certain goods had to be detained by the customs authorities at Bombay.

(c) Does not arise.

RESTRICTIVE INDUSTRIAL LICENSING POLICY

46. SHRI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from industrialists urg-

ing Government to liberalise its present industrial licensing policy;

(b) if so, whether Government are thinking of revising its policy; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) Various suggestions relating to Government's industrial licensing policy have been made from time to time by the Central Advisory Council of Industries, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and other such bodies. Government give due consideration to all such suggestions while formulating their licensing policy, which is reviewed from time to time.

(b) and (c) No specific revision of policy is under contemplation at present.

COMMITTEE FOR NEGOTIATING FOREIGN COLLABORATORS

47. SHRI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a Committee of senior officials for conducting negotiations with foreign collaborators;

(b) if so, the details of the constitution of the Committee;

(c) whether the Committee will be of a permanent nature;

(d) what will be the recurring expenditure on the Committee; and

(e) what useful purpose it is likely to serve as compared to the existing arrangement?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have decided to

set up a Committee of senior officials for guiding negotiations with foreign parties concerning major projects both in the public and private sectors. The Committee will consist of the Cabinet Secretary, the Secretary of the Ministry concerned, a representative of the Finance Ministry and representatives of other ministries concerned with the project.

(c) and (d) This *ad hoc* Committee of officials will function till Government decide otherwise. There will be no additional expenditure involved as a result of the setting up of the Committee.

(e) The main object of setting up the Committee is to bring about greater co-ordination and uniformity of approach between various departments of the Government of India in their negotiations with foreign parties relating to the establishment of major Industrial projects in the country, the pooling of information in their possession and better co-ordination between public and private sector enterprises.

THREE YEAR MEDICAL DEGREE COURSE

48. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken decision to start three year Medical Degree Course in order to meet the problem of shortage of doctors; and

(b) if so, what are the steps so far taken to implement that decision?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

ERADICATION OF FOOD ADULTERATION

49. SHRI R. N. KAKATI: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to State:

Transferred from the 15th February 1963.

(a) whether it is a fact that while inaugurating the fourth annual conference of the Kerala State Municipal and Corporation Health Inspectors, held on February 3, 1963 at Trichur she said that "Food adulteration had become a menace and unless something drastic is done to eradicate the evil it will eat the Health of the Community"; and

(b) if so, what drastic measures are in the contemplation of Government for eradication of adulteration in food in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (DR. SUSHILA NAYAR): (a) and (b) I did not use the expression as reported, though I did say that food adulteration had become a serious problem. It was a menace to the health of the community and municipalities and health inspectors had to take serious note of it. Concerted action at all levels was necessary to meet the challenge and safeguard the health of the community.

Government propose to promote suitable legislation to make the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 more effective.

PLANT FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF AIR-RIFLES IN PUNJAB

J SHRI A. D. MANI: SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA;

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Punjab have set up a plant with American collaboration for the production of air-rifles;

(b) if so, whether the approval of his Ministry was sought for the setting up of the plant; and

(c) what is the purpose of this venture?