

the earnings during the corresponding period of the previous year by Rs. 24 lakhs.

(b) High prices at home and recession in economic activity abroad.

(c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Steps taken by Government to effect improvement in the export of engineering goods

The steps already taken to promote exports of engineering goods would include special procedure for making available raw-material requirements in advance, replenishment quota of the raw-material content on exports effected, drawback of import and excise duties paid on imported or indigenous components used in the goods exported, procedure for priority movement by railways for goods meant for export, and market surveys, publicity, propaganda, etc., undertaken by the Engineering Export Promotion Council.

In addition to the above, the following further steps are being taken:—

1. Priority delivery of iron and steel against quotas issued to exporters;
2. Steel to be made available to exporters at prices exclusive of equalising charge; and
3. Concession railway freight in respect of some specified items.

TOURS OF MINISTERS

*215. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has issued a circular to the Central Ministers asking them not to stay with their friends other than Congress Ministers while on tour; and

(b) whether there is any Code of Conduct for the Ministers and Governors regarding display of power and public wealth?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) No.

(b) There is no such written Code of Conduct. The Prime Minister has, however, been occasionally advising the Governors and Ministers, both at the Centre and in the States, to dispense with the pomp and ceremony of office as far as possible.

ALCOHOL AND ALCOHOL-BASED INDUSTRIES IN UTTAR PRADESH

*216. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 80 per cent. of the total installed capacity for manufacturing alcohol falls in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) how many licences for alcohol-based industries have been granted by Government during the last five years; and

(c) how many alcohol-based industries are to be set up in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) It is only 47 per cent.

(b) Four licences have been issued. In addition one scheme (also approved) is awaiting the issue of a licence.

(c) The possibility of setting up alcohol-based industries in Uttar Pradesh and elsewhere is being constantly explored. It is difficult to indicate the number of industries which can be set up based on alcohol.

LIMESTONE DEPOSITS IN DEHRA DUN AND GARHWAL DISTRICTS

*217. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that limestone has been found in substantial quantities in Dehra Dun and at Nilkanth near Rishikesh in Garhwal district; and