

recommendations made in the report are being finalised and it is expected that the final decision will be announced soon

Indo-Iran Trade Agreement

186 SHRI VARKEY GEORGE
Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state

(a) whether any Trade Delegation from Iran visited India during September, 1971, and

(b) whether any trade agreement between the two countries has been reached recently and if so, the contents thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE
(SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) No, Sir

(b) A Trade Agreement between India and Iran was concluded on March 11, 1964, which has been extended from time to time. It was last extended up to March 10, 1972. The question of extending the Trade Agreement further will be considered in consultation with the Government of Iran. A copy of the Agreement has already been placed in the Parliament Library.

Decline in employment in Jute and Tea Industries

187 SHRI NAGFSHWARA RAO
Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the Reserve Bank Bulletin Report on Employment in Indian factories published in August 1971, where in it was stated that since 1951, employment in jute and tea industries had been declining and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE
(SHRI A. C. GEORGE) (a) Yes, Sir
The report has appeared in the July, 1971 issue of the Reserve Bank Bulletin

(b) An agreement reached between workers and the tea industry in West Bengal in September 1969 envisages fresh employ-

ment of 7000 workers in tea industry in West Bengal over and above the number of permanent roll as on 1st January 1969. A similar agreement reached in Assam in October 1969 envisages additional employment of 15000 workers by 31st March 1972. In the jute industry there is no scope for larger employment potential in the existing industry. A proposal is, however, under consideration for the establishment of new jute mills in some of the industrially backward jute growing states. When this takes final shape, there will be larger employment.

Dispute between Haryana and Punjab Government over nomination of judges to Punjab and Haryana High Court

188 SHRI NAGFSHWARA RAO
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a dispute between Haryana and Punjab over the issue of nomination of four judges to the Punjab and Haryana High Court and

(b) if so the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H R GOKHALE) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

Compensation paid by Northeast Frontier Railway for pilferage of goods in transit

189 SHRI NAGFSHWARA RAO
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the amount of compensation paid by North East Frontier Railway for pilferage of goods in transit to various parties in Assam, West Bengal, Bihar and U P during 1970 and 1971.

(b) the improvement recorded in this field subsequent to the steps announced by him in his budget speech,

(c) whether Railway Employees have been found to be involved in such pilferage and if so, the extent of their involvements during 1970 and 1971, and

(d) whether Government are aware of the existence of some gangs who in collusion with railway employees have been claiming compensation from Railway on various pretexts ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) (a) The amounts of compensation paid by North-east Frontier Railway to various parties in Assam, West Bengal and Bihar during 1970 and 1971 for pilferage were Rs 72,66 lakhs and Rs 90 31 lakhs respectively. U. P is not served by Northeast Frontier Railway

(b) In spite of various steps taken, improvement could not be effected on the Northeast Frontier Railway due to abnormal detentions to wagons caused by strike at Barauni in April, 1971 and serious breaches and floods in West Bengal and Bihar in July to September, 1971. An All India campaign has been launched on 26th January, 1972 to prevent thefts and pilferages. Various measures taken by the Railways in this direction include formation of Committees of State Government Officers, Railway Officers, and trade union representatives at the State level. Similar Committees comprising of representatives of the official side and the workers employed in the important units of operation have also been formed. These Committees are intended to enlist the

cooperation of railway staff for combating thefts and pilferages and to provide information and suggest measures for their effective prevention. The results of this drive in the form of reduction in the number and amount of claims paid can, however, be assessed only after some time as claims are preferred upto six months from the date of booking.

(c) Yes. The number of Railway employees involved in cases of pilferages of goods on Northeast Frontier Railway was 74 in 1970 and 85 in 1971.

(d) No.

Cardamom Replanting Finance Scheme

190 SHRI NAGESHWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state

(a) the extent of utilisation of Cardamom Replanting Finance Scheme during the past three years and

(b) The number of licences granted under the scheme for streamlining the marketing methods ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A C GORGI) (a) and (b) A statement containing the required information is placed on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The extent Utilisation of Cardamom Replanting Finance Scheme during the past three years as under —

| Year | No. of loanees to whom loan has been given | Acreage covered | Amount of loan disbursed by the Cardamom Board |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------|
| | | | Rs, |
| 1969-70 | 12 | 117 | 70,200 |
| 1970-71 | 32 | 238 | 1,75,800* |
| 1971-72 | 28 (first instalment) | 187 | 1,58,250 |
| (29-2-1972) | 7 (second instalment) | 60 | |

*This includes also the second instalment of loan to previous year's loanees

(b) The following are the licences and certificates granted to auctioneers, brokers and dealers—

| Year | Auctioneers | Brokers | Dealers |
|----------|-------------|---------|---------|
| 1968-69 | 53 | 84 | 763 |
| 1969-70 | 45 | 125 | 1046 |
| 1970-71 | 54 | 109 | 993 |
| 1971-72 | 45 | 80 | 895 |
| (6-3-72) | | | |