

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI) : (a) M/s. Singer Sewing Machine Company, Bombay is a wholly owned subsidiary company of M/s. Singer of U.S.A. Under the provisions of Section 29 (2) of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973, the Company was directed by the Reserve Bank of India to convert its branch in India into an Indian Company with non-resident interest at a level not exceeding 40%, by 2nd December, 1977. In April, 1978 the company submitted a proposal for Indianisation to the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) indicating the manner in which it proposes to comply with the R.B.I.'s directives.

(b) and (c). It is difficult at this stage to express any view on the likely impact of the future operations of Singer Sewing Machine Company in India on indigenous manufacturers of domestic sewing machines.

(d) Under the Industrial Licensing Policy Statement of 23rd December, 1977 the Industry, "Sewing Machines—domestic, hand operated and conventional type" has been reserved for exclusive development in the small scale sector.

Government Advertisement to Bengali Newspapers.

2380. **SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that widely circulated papers like Ananda Bazar etc., in Bengali are not getting Government advertisements, circulars, other notifications as a result of which a major portion of our population are remaining deprived of the necessary informations ;

(b) whether Government's objectives are greatly being hampered for not allowing their circulations to widely published dailies ; and

(c) whether Government are reconsidering the existing policy ; if not, the effective steps so far taken to cover wider population range ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : No eligible newspaper, which qualifies for release of advertisements under the advertising

policy by virtue of its circulation and by fulfilling the conditions of regularity of publication and minimum standards of production, has been denied Government advertisements by the DAVP. No advertisement have been withheld from release to the Ananda Bazar Patrika, but the paper itself has decided not to accept advertisements because it insists on payment of a much higher rate. The paper has also gone to the court to enforce these rates. The matter is sub-judice.

(b) No, Sir. A large number of Bengali newspapers are publishing Government advertisements.

(c) Does not arise.

Attack on Indian Captain of Bangladesh Registered Cargo Ship

2381. **SHRI SARAT KAR :** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government's attention has been drawn to Indian Express dated the 23rd May, 1978 that an Indian captain of a Bangladesh registered cargo ship was attacked and wounded by its mutinying crew members while the ship was on the High Seas (London) ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Indian Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM) : (a) and (b). No official information is available in this regard. However, the captain appears to have signed on Bangladesh registered vessel of his own accord and not under the provisions of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

Complaints received by Shah Commission pertaining to Excesses in Haryana

2382. **SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI :** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received by the Shah Commission pertaining to 'Judicial excesses' committed in the State of Haryana ;

(b) how many of the said complaints have been referred to the Government of Haryana ; and