

(b) The slow lifting is mainly due to credit squeeze and availability of sufficient stocks with newspapers.

(c) and (d): The following steps have been taken in this behalf:

- (i) Further imports of newsprint for STC's buffer stock have been stopped.
- (ii) Shipments are being rescheduled, wherever possible.
- (iii) Credit facilities have been extended by STC under the Bill Market Scheme whereunder the allottees can lift the stocks immediately against bills of exchange negotiable within 90 days of the date of lifting the stock.
- (iv) The newspapers which have failed to lift the stocks imported for them, are being called upon to lift them before further imports could be arranged for them.
- (v) Some newsprint is being offered to Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings.

### अभ्रक का आयात

7559. श्री भागीरथ भंवर : क्या वाणिज्य मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विद्युत तथा इलैक्ट्रानिक उद्योगों में प्रयुक्त अभ्रक कर सरकार द्वारा आयात किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रत्येक वर्ष कितने अभ्रक का आयात किया जाता है और उसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) देश में इसके प्रतिस्थापक का पता लगाने के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) :

(क) से (ग) अभ्रक आधारित निसं-वाहक माल की कुछ मात्राएं देश में आयात की जाती हैं परन्तु इन उत्पादों को

बनाने के लिए देश में कारखाने स्थापित किये गये हैं और स्थापित किये जा रहे हैं।

### Pallamau Fort, Bihar

7560. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Palamau Fort in District Palamau (Bihar) is being destroyed and no steps have been taken to save this fort which is really an attraction for tourists who go to National Park; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for security of the fort?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b) No such complaint has been received by Central Department of Tourism about the Palamau Fort. It is also not a Centrally protected monument. It is for the State Government to take suitable steps to prevent the alleged destruction of the Fort.

### Conversion of Loans given by Financial Institutions into Shares

7561. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

Whether Government propose to convert the loans given by financial institutions to 20 large Industrial Houses into shares so that it will be easier in future for nationalisation of those industries which have been built up mainly by Government aids?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): The policy of Government contained in its guidelines to the five all-India long term financial institutions in regard to the convertibility of loans given by the institutions to industrial concerns in the private sector, into share capital, was with a view to ensure that an appropriate share in the benefits accruing from the assisted project after it is completed, be available to the State and that the loans so converted into equity shares

be effectively used for enlarging the role of the State in the management of the private sector industry.

The institutions are incorporating the convertibility clauses in their loan agreements. The actual option to convert the loans is to be exercised by the institutions at the appropriate time in accordance with the terms of the convertibility clauses written in, in the loan agreements. The actual exercise of option to convert the loans into equity shares depends on various factors, viz., the nature of the project, the expected yield on equity, etc.

The institutions have stipulated conversion option in the case of all companies belonging to the 20 large industrial houses assisted by them after the issue of the guidelines. So far only in the case of two companies belonging to these 20 large industrial houses the period of conversion has just commenced. The institutions propose to review the position of the actual exercise of the conversion option on receipt of the balance sheets of the companies concerned.

#### Setting up of a Holding Corporation for Jute Marketing

7562. SHRI BANAMALI BABU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a holding Corporation for jute marketing as recommended by the National Commission on Agriculture;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof; and

(c) whether the holding Corporation will act independently or under the Jute Corporation of India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c) National Commission on Agriculture has submitted an Interim Report on certain aspects of marketing and prices of jute etc. The report *inter alia* suggests that Jute Corporation of India should be strengthened to act as a holding Corporation. Government is already strengthening the J.C.I. gradually and there is no proposal to set up another Corporation for marketing raw jute.

#### Loan given by SBI and Nationalised Banks in Orissa for Agricultural Purposes.

7563. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount given as loan in Orissa for agricultural purposes by the State Bank of India and other nationalised banks during the last two years; and

(b) particulars of the schemes on agricultural for which loans have been sanctioned in the State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) : The outstanding of total agricultural advances of Public Sector Banks in Orissa as at the end of June, 1973 and June, 1974 were as below:—

(Amount in lakhs of Rupees)			
	SBI Group	Nationalised Banks	Total of public sector Banks
June, 1973 .	145.75	94.71	240.46
June, 1974 .	225.83	229.26	455.09

(Figures are provisional)

(b) The Public Sector Banks make direct agricultural advances to farmers in the form of short term loans, including crop loans, for seasonal agricultural operations as also in the form of term loans for minor irrigation schemes, installation of pump-sets/oil engines, purchase of tractors, power tillers, agricultural implements and machinery, plough animals, reclamation and land development, construction of godowns and cold storage, developmental loans for plantations etc. Loans are also given for financing allied agricultural activities like dairying, poultry farming, piggery, bee-keeping, fisheries. Indirect agricultural advances are given to State Electricity Boards for energisation of Tube-Wells, dealers of agricultural inputs, to entrepreneurs for setting up Agro-Service Centres, loans to farmers through primary agricultural credit societies etc.