

(c) if so, the action taken by Government against officials responsible causing harassment; and

(d) the precautionary measures taken, if any, to eliminate the possibility of recurrence of such cases of harassment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) (a) It has been alleged that one officer was transferred from Bombay to Bhubaneswar and later to the madras Staff Training College and that his promotion was blocked for more than six years. It has also been alleged that promotion was denied to another officer by initiating disciplinary action against him on a flimsy charge without investigation and that the recommendation of the DPC in his case was out in 'sealed cover';

(b) It is not true that the concerned two officers were harassed. One officer was transferred from Bombay to Bhubaneswar after completion of the tenure of 4 years in the normal course. From Bhubaneswar, he was transferred to the Madras Staff Training College after completion of nearly 4 years in the normal course. He was recently promoted as Collector of Customs and Central Excise and posted to Bombay.

In the case of the other officer, the recommendation of the Departmental Promotion Committee was placed in a sealed cover because of disciplinary proceedings which is the normal practice.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Steel Scrap Yard at Ratlam in Madhya Pradesh

10446. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a steel scrap yard in Ratlam district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Setting up of Yatri Niwas in Haryana

10447. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any place in Haryana is being considered by Government for setting up of Yatri Niwas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Laboratory Facilities in ITDC Hotels

10448. SHRI M. SELVARASU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a laboratory was set up in Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi for conducting random tests of food materials;

(b) if so, its performance during 1987-88 to 1989-90 and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years; and

(c) the number of employees recruited on that job and the details of jobs entrusted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) to (c). Primarily for the prestigious CHOGM Conference, a skeleton Chemical Food Testing Laboratory was set up with 4 employees in 1983 in Ashok Hotel, New Delhi, which functioned only upto 1986-87. Two of the four employees left the services in 1984 and the services of the remaining two (viz an analyst and a Lab Assistant) are being utilised by ITDC in its Medical and Health Wing for assisting its Delhi-based hotel unit in ensuring compliance of the provisions of Food and Adulteration Act. ITDC has not incurred any expenditure on equipment/machinery for this set up during last 3 years.

Export of Spices

10449. SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target set and quantum of spices

exported during the year 1989-90 and foreign exchange earned;

(b) whether the target of export of spices during the year 1989-90 had been achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of spices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) and (b). A statement is attached.

(c) Export of spices has exceeded targets, quantity-wise, although there was a shortfall, value-wise during 1989-90. This was mainly because of lesser unit value realisation and lesser export of pepper, due to easy supply position in the international market.

(d) Export promotion measure being undertaken include publicity campaigns, participation in trade fairs, organisation of buyer-seller meets and quality improvement programmes, in addition to various incentives like CCS and import replenishment.