

Appointment of Shri A. N. Haksar as Director of R.B.I.

*91. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri A. N. Haksar, Chairman, Imperial Tobacco Company, a British controlled concern, now named as Indian Tobacco Company Ltd., has been made a Director of Reserve Bank of India;

(b) whether this company was caught doing invoice manipulation and was penalised for the same on account of export of shrimps;

(c) whether in the last session serious charges were levelled against him for various manipulations and malpractices; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that against this Company, Custom's demand of Rs. 90 lakhs was pending and which through corrupt means they were able to evade the order granted by erstwhile Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and Banking against whom now CBI enquiry is proceeding?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Shri A. N. Haksar was initially appointed on 23rd February, 1973 as a Member of the Local Board of the Reserve Bank of India for the Eastern Area and simultaneously nominated as a Director on the Central Board of the Bank with effect from the same date. He has been re-nominated for a second term in both these capacities on 22nd July, 1977.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Madras Custom House had raised a claim for about Rs. 90 lakhs against the Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company. The com-

pany's representation against this claim was examined in the Department of Revenue and was disposed of on 19th March, 1977 by issue of an exemption order after examination and after obtaining the orders of the then Minister for Revenue and Banking. Presently, all the records relating to this case are with the Shah Commission. The Hon'ble Member's attention is also invited to replies given by me to the Lok Sabha Un-Starred Questions Nos. 882 and 780 answered on June 17, 1977.

Imported edible oil lying uncleared at Madras Port

*92. SHRI ANANT DAVE:

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item published in the 'Times of India' dated 14th October, 1977 that 9000 tonnes of edible oils imported from Malaysia and Singapore is lying uncleared at Madras Port as it is said to be sub-standard;

(b) the actions Government propose to take against the supplier; and

(c) what is the Report of King Institute on the material?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI K. K. GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The entire consignments referred to were imported by private parties and the question of Government taking action against the suppliers does not arise.

(c) Samples of these oils were sent for testing to King Institute, Public Analyst, Municipal Corporation, Madras and Agmark Laboratory,