

rived at between the Union and the Management. While some of the demands have been accepted, some others are under discussion between the NTC and the Employees' Union.

Extension of date of submission of applications for claims of compensation for properties

3720. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision of the Government to extend the date for submission of application for claims of compensation for properties left by the refugees in former East Pakistan has been adequately publicised in West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Bihar, U. P. and Delhi news papers;

(b) whether All India Radio also publicised it; and

(c) if so, facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) (i). In order to have adequate coverage, notice regarding extension of date for submitting claim applications under the ex-gratia scheme upto 31st July, 1977, was released to the following newspapers:

- (1) The Statesman Ltd., Calcutta (Also in their Delhi edition).
- (2) Hindustan Times, New Delhi.
- (3) Hindu, Madras.
- (4) Indian Express, Bombay (Also in all their editions).
- (5) Times of India, Bombay (Also in all their editions).
- (6) Amrita Bazar Patrika, Calcutta.

- (7) Jugantar, Calcutta.
- (8) Anand Bazar Patrika, Calcutta.
- (9) Basumati, Calcutta.
- (10) Assam Express, Gauhati.
- (11) Janshakti, Patna.
- (12) Indian Nation, Patna.
- (13) Assam Tribune, Gauhati.
- (14) Dainik Assam Gauhati.
- (15) Jagram, Agartala.
- (16) Janambhumi, Jorhat.
- (17) Romai, Aizwal.
- (18) Zomai, Aizwal.
- (19) National Herald, Lucknow.
- (20) Janpad, Agartala.
- (21) Prantajyoti, Silchar.
- (22) Prajatantra, Imphal.
- (23) Hamar Arsi, Aizwal.

(ii) Coverage was given by the All India Radio, Calcutta and Door-darshan, Calcutta on 18th June, 1977.

International Air Traffic through Calcutta Airport

3721. SHRI SAMAR GUHA:
SHRI SAUGATA ROY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether international air traffic through Calcutta airport has increased during last three years;

(b) if so, comparative figures of such increased flights from year to year; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for promoting international air traffic through Calcutta Airport?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION: (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). No, Sir, International air traffic through Calcutta airport has not increased during the last three years.

(c). All efforts are being made to increase flights through Calcutta. Calcutta is invariably offered as a point of call to foreign airlines when route schedules to Bilateral Air Services Agreements are negotiated. A substantial amount has been spent in providing a new terminal building, an operational block, a modern hotel and approach roads and modernising radio navigational aids besides extending and strengthening runways and installation of sophisticated radar equipment at Calcutta airport. It is hoped that with these facilities more foreign airlines would come forward and operate their services through Calcutta.

Loan Agreement with Saudi Arabia

3722. SHRI RAMANAND TIWARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Saudi Arabia has signed a loan pact with our country during June, 1977; and

(b) if so, the amount loaned and terms and conditions attached with the loan?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Loan agreement, which was signed on 2nd June, 1977 between Government of India and the Saudi Fund for Development for financing the Srisaïlam and Nagarjunasagar Hydro-Electric projects in Andhra Pradesh, is for a sum of Saudi Rials 353 million or about Rs. 90 crores. This loan is repayable in 20 years, inclusive of a five-year grace period and shall carry a loan charge of 4 per cent per annum.

Steps to reduce Arrears of Income-Tax

3723. SHRI RAMANAND TIWARY:
SHRI DURGA CHAND:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND

REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the total income-tax arrears as on 30th June 1977;

(b) the reasons for not realising these arrears; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken to reduce the arrears and combat tax evasion?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING, (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The figures of tax arrears as on 30-6-1977 are not available at present. The gross and net arrears of income-tax (including Corporation-tax) as on 31-3-1977 were as under: Gross arrears. . . Rs. 873.56 crores. Net arrears. . . Rs. 569.84 crores.

(b) Some of the major reasons on account of which tax arrears remain unrealised are as follows:—

(i) Amounts pending settlement of double income tax relief.

(ii) Amounts due from companies under liquidation.

(iii) Amounts due from persons who have left India or are otherwise not traceable.

(iv) Amounts disputed in appeals.

(v) Amounts under process of recovery where assets have been attached but not yet sold due to various reasons.

(c) The Income-tax Act, 1961 provides for several steps for enforcing collection and recovery of tax arrears, such as levy of penalty, attachment of moneys due to the defaulter, distraint and sale of movable property, attachment and sale of immovable property, etc. Depending upon the facts and circumstances of each case, suitable steps are taken by the Income-tax authorities concerned for recovery of tax arrears.

Every effort is being made to fight the evil of tax evasion effectively. The intelligence and investigation machinery of the Income-tax Department is