

incurred for the implementation of the scheme shall be borne by the Corporations/State Governments.

7.5. Since the advances to State Corporations will not be eligible for guarantee cover from the Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd., State Governments may have to provide guarantee to the lending banks.

7.6. If a Corporation fails to pay the instalments of loans or violates any terms and conditions stipulated in the scheme, it may be liable to forfeit its right for further finance.

Export of Refrigerators

920. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is in a position to export Indian refrigerators to foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the names of such countries where the Indian refrigerators are popular and demand for the same has also been made to Indian Government?

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

(b) India has been exporting refrigerators and parts to a large number of countries in all parts of the world. The biggest importer of Indian refrigerators was Saudi Arabia followed by U.A.E., Australia, Kuwait, Philippines, Poland and Thailand.

Memorandum from Unemployed Commercial Pilots Association

921. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Unemployed Commercial Pilot's Association has demanded, among other things, creation of a third airlines parallel to Indian Airlines, to be manned exclusively by an unemployed pilots' co-operative;

(b) whether any memorandum in this regard has also been submitted by the Association to the Government; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) A proposal for setting up a third level air service for connecting small towns and cities with aircraft of smaller capacity is under consideration. It will not be possible to say at this stage what the structure of the proposed organisation would be.

Programme of flights by AIRBUS

922. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has agreed to lease out one of its newly acquired airbus aircraft to Air India to operate flights to the Gulf region;

(b) whether there is possibility to postpone its plans to extend domestic airbus services to Gauhati, Goa and Srinagar; and

(c) if so, the facts regarding the programme of airbus flights?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Negotiations are in progress between the two airlines for lease of Indian Airlines' spare Airbus capacity to Air-India for operation of two flights a week to the Gulf region.

(b) and (c). Indian Airlines will operate an Airbus service to Gauhati as soon as the aerodrome there has been made ready to receive the aircraft.

Indian Airlines would also consider operation of Airbus services to Goa and Srinagar when these airports are adequately developed for operation of wide bodied aircraft. Necessary development works at Gauhati, Goa and Srinagar are in progress.

Rise in prices in Delhi

923. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that prices in Delhi are rising alarmingly;

(b) whether the price index figure for March last year was 324 indicating that there has been a rise of 21 points over the last 12 months; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Consequent on the inflationary pressures built up in the country since the last week of March, 1976, there has been a rising trend in prices in the country as a whole, which has been reflected in the price trends in the Union Territory of Delhi as well.

(b) Yes, Sir. The consumer price index for industrial workers in Delhi (base 1960—100) had moved up from 324 in March, 1976 to 345 in March, 1977.

(c) Remedial measures taken at the national level are likely to have

impact on prices and availability of essential commodities in the Union Territory of Delhi also. The measures taken include: (i) removal of restrictions on inter-State movement of wheat, (ii) increased releases of non-levy sugar for the months of May, June and July, 1977, (iii) regulated exports of potatoes and onions; (iv) continuance of imports in adequate quantities of edible oils through the State Trading Corporation and the private trade, and (v) imposition of an export duty of Rs. 5 on tea from April 9, 1977 and simultaneous withdrawal of the excise rebate on tea exports.

In addition, Delhi Administration has taken some more specific measures in this regard. These include the following:

Pursuant to a scheme of the Government of India, arrangements have been made to sell imported rapeseed oil at a retail price not exceeding Rs. 8.50 per kg. During the past three months 3000 tonnes or rapeseed oil has been put in the market in Delhi. The procurement of soft coke has been entrusted to Bharat Coking Coal Limited as a result of which the price of soft coke has been brought down from Rs. 10.82 to Rs. 10.32 per 40 kg.

An Essential Commodities Traders Advisory Committee, consisting of representatives of associations of traders of various essential commodities, National Consumer Co-operative Federation, National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Ltd., and some officials of the Delhi Administration, was formed last month to review the situation of availability of essential commodities and articles of mass consumption at reasonable prices.

It has been decided to set up 50 fruits and vegetables fair-price retail shops. Some of these shops have already started functioning.