

responsible for the default. As a consequence, the Executive Director has resigned and his resignation has been accepted.

(d) An inquiry has been undertaken by SEBI for alleged non-diligence by SBI Capital Markets in handling the composite issue of M.S. Shoes.

EXPORT POTENTIALITIES

1621. Shri S. S. R. Rajendra Kumar :
Shri Rampal Singh :

Will the **Minister of Commerce** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any study to find out the export potentialities particularly labour-intensive products to South Africa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce (Shri P. Chidambaram) : (a) and (b) It is primarily for the trade and business organisations of India and South Africa to identify items for export and import from each other depending on their requirements and the competitiveness of the goods. However, it is expected that the probable items of export from India to South Africa including labour intensive products will include : Cotton Yarn, fabric made-ups, leather, readymade garments of cotton including accessories, manmade Yarn, fabrics, madeups, machinery & instruments, manufactures of metals, drugs, pharmaceuticals & fine chemicals, handicrafts (excluding handmade carpets), readymade garments of manmade fibres, inorganic, organic agro chemicals and readymade garments of wool.

REGIONAL OFFICE OF SBI IN BIHAR

1622. Shri Suraj Mandal : Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to open regional office of State Bank of India in the Jharkhand area of Bihar; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to start functioning ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) State Bank of India has intimated that it already has a fully functional Zonal Office at Ranchi which controls five Regions falling within the Jharkhand Area.

[Translation]

NEW AIRPORTS IN BIHAR

1623. Shri Surya Narayan Yadav : Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new airports in Bihar keeping in view fewer airports there as compared to other States;

(b) if so, whether these airports are proposed to be set up in border districts of North Bihar also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

MURDERS IN ITDC HOTELS

1624. Shri Janardan Misra :
Shri Phool Chand Verma :

Will the **Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of murder are increasing in the hotels run by India Tourism Development Corporation particularly in Delhi;

(b) if so, the facts thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to take special measures to check such incidents in these hotels;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the last three calendar years (1992, 1993 and 1994), one murder has taken place in ITDC's hotels, when on 13-7-92 a guest was murdered in Lodi Hotel, New Delhi.

(c) to (e) The Security measures have been strengthened by ITDC in their hotels keeping in view the increase in crimes/terrorist activities in general.

[English]

REDUCTION IN THE POSTS OF JOINT SECRETARY AND ABOVE

1625. Shri S. M. Laljan Basha :
Prof. Ummareddy Venkateswarlu :

Will the **Minister of Finance** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had conducted any survey earlier to reduce the number of posts of Joint Secretary and above in the Government of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Manmohan Singh) : (a) and (b) In pursuance of the decision announced by the Prime Minister to reduce posts by atleast 10 per cent, it has been decided that 246 posts at the level of Joint Secretary, 9 posts of the level of Additional Secretary and 11 posts of the level of Secretary should be surrendered. These posts are being abolished, or kept in abeyance, as and when they are falling vacant.

JUTE CORPORATION OF INDIA

1626. Shri Birsingh Mahato :
Shri Rabi Ray :
Shri Chitta Basu :

Will the **Minister of Textiles** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jute Corporation of India has decided