

### Smuggling RDX Explosives

3718. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Antismuggling Squad nabbed and confiscated RDX explosives at Jamnagar and Bombay recently; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to arrest such smugglings of explosives into the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No such seizure has been affected by Anti-smuggling agencies under the Ministry of Finance.

(b) Agencies of Central Government and State Government engaged in the task of prevention and detection of smuggling have been alerted to stop all smuggling including smuggling of explosives. They have also been equipped with better means to combat such smuggling.

### Vayudoot Aircrafts

3719. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: PROF. K.V. THOMAS: SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

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

(a) the number of aircraft, which are operational;

(b) the number of aircrafts, out of them, which are operational:

(c) the reasons for which all aircraft of the Vayudoot are not operational;

(d) the number of employees of the vayudoot at present; and

(e) the steps taken for the economically viable functioning of the Vayudoot?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c). Out of 8 Avro and 8 Dorrier aircraft, 1 Avro and 2 Dornier aircraft are at present operational. Rest are grounded for major inspections/checks/repairs.

(d) There are at present 1447 employees in Vayudoot.

(e) Efforts are on to determine the routes on which Vayudoot should concentrate and the type and the number of aircraft as well as manpower required for the purpose.

[English]

### Subsidy on Cotton

3720. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Cotton Advisory Committee has strongly advocated and end to subsidies in all kinds of cotton:

(b) if so, the main reasons put forward by the Advisory Committee therefor: and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE