

passengers in the event of change in flight schedule;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Indian Airlines, Delhi (Palam Airport) did not bother to inform its passengers booked to travel on IC-459 Ex-Delhi-Gwalior-Bhopal on 9-7-78 till they were checked in and checked for security purpose while in fact the incoming aircraft on IC-482 of 8-7-78 was not arrived from Jaipur-Agra;

(c) if so, the reasons of such slackness and negligence on the part of Indian Airlines; and

(d) action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a) It is obligatory on the part of the Airlines to advise passengers of change in flight time when such a change is necessitated due to exigencies.

(b) to (d). There had been a lapse on the part of Indian Airlines in not making an announcement. Indian Airlines have regretted the inconvenience caused and have taken steps to see that such lapses do not occur, in future.

Re-Structuring of S.T.C. and its Subsidiaries

3885. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to restructure the State Trading Corporation and its subsidiaries in the near future; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The recommendations made by the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad in regard to the res-

structuring of the STC and its subsidiaries are being examined at appropriate levels.

Quantity of Rice Exported

3886. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of rice exported during the year 1977-78 and up to the end of June, 1978;

(b) whether it is not a fact that as a result of huge quantity of export, price of rice has increased in the country; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to reduce the quantity for export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) The total quantity of Basmati rice exported during April—November, 1977 was 9,378 tonnes. Export figures for the period from December, 1977 to June, 1978 have not yet been compiled.

(b) and (c). Export of all varieties of rice except Basmati is banned. Against the total production of 2.5 lakh tonnes of Basmati rice annual export has not been more than 42,000 tonnes during the last five years. Export of Basmati is not likely to have any adverse effect on the domestic prices especially of the cheaper varieties of rice which are mainly consumed by the common man in India.

Manufacture of Smaller Gold Bars for sale at Gold Auctions

3887. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to manufacture smaller gold bars for sale at gold auctions;