

Import of more Commercial Planes

2906. SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many more commercial planes have been ordered for supply from foreign countries and what are their individual costs; and

(b) is Government not thinking of having its own industry for manufacturing commercial planes of large dimensions instead of depending upon foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Air-India have placed orders with the Boeing Company, USA, for purchase of one B-747 aircraft in replacement of the one lost in accident on 1.1.78 at an estimated cost of Rs. 41.77 crores. In addition, Air-India have placed orders with the Boeing Company for purchase of three B-747 aircraft at a total estimated project cost of Rs. 148.44 crores in foreign exchange and Rs. 10.50 crores in Indian currency.

(b) At present there is no such proposal.

Floating of Loans

2907. SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the need to float further loans worth Rs. 400 crores as announced by him recently;

(b) the total amount of Central loans so far taken from the people of the country and when their payments are due; and

(c) will such huge loans not lead to excessive burden on the Central Government if these loans cannot give the desired productive results?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The loans for Rs. 400 crores floated on 22nd November, 1978 are part of the market borrowing of Rs. 1830 crores (gross) for which credit has been taken in the Budget estimates for the current year.

(b) Details of Central loans outstanding at the end of 1977-78 and their maturities are given in Appendix 'A' to Section II of the Explanatory Memorandum on the Budget of the Central Government for 1978-79 (pages 78 and 79). The loans raised during the current year and their maturities are as under:

	(In Crores)
6% Loan, 1988	140.49
6% Loan, 1989	67.96
6-1/2% Loan, 1993	93.61
6-1/4% Loan, 1995	125.70
6-1/4% Loan, 1996	76.24
6-1/2% Loan, 2001	93.61
6-3/4% Loan, 2006	788.70
6-3/4% Loan, 2007	295.80
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(c) Market borrowing is a recognised resource for financing our five year Plans.

Consumers Cooperative Societies Functioning in Tamil Nadu

2908. SHRI A. ASOKARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of consumers co-operative societies functioning in Tamil Nadu on 30th November, 1978; and

(b) to what extent these societies have served the weaker sections of the Society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) 29 central/wholesale consumer cooperative societies. 1762 primary consumer cooperative societies and a State Consumer Cooperative Federation at the apex, are functioning in Tamil Nadu as on 30.11.1978.

(b) For the benefit of the weaker sections of the society, consumer co-operatives have with Government assistance opened 35 small branches in backward areas, 43 smaller branches in cities and towns to cater to the requirements of weaker sections living in slums, scheduled castes and workers in the unorganised sector. From July, 1978 to September, 1978, their sales were Rs. 17 lakhs.

Visit of a Nigerian Trade Team to Calcutta

2909. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nigerian trade team visited Calcutta in September, 1978 and met representatives of the various trade organisations in India; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The meetings provided very good opportunities for exchange of ideas and the Trade Mission members established good contacts with a large number of businessmen. The visit-

ing delegation showed keen interest in having joint industrial ventures with Indian entrepreneurs.

Formation of Appellate Tribunal in Central Excise

2910. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2447 on 2nd December, 1977 regarding representation for formation of Appellate Tribunal in Central Excises and state:

(a) whether the Indirect Taxation Enquiry Committee to whom the suggestion in representation regarding the formation of Appellate Tribunal in Central Excise and Gold matters was sent, have recommended such a Tribunal or what the committee has recommended on the point;

(b) whether the Government have accepted the said recommendation; and

(c) if so, when it shall be brought into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) The recommendation of the Indirect Taxation Enquiry Committee on the question of constitution of an Appellate Tribunal are contained in paras 16.22 to 16.24 of their Report-Part (II), copies of which have already been laid in the Lok Sabha. The recommendations of the Committee do not cover a Tribunal system for Gold Control matters.

(b) and (c). The Report of the Indirect Taxation Inquiry Committee is presently under examination. A final view on this recommendation is yet to be taken by the Government.