Representation for upgradation of Income-tax Officers (Group-B)

706. SHRI A. MURUGESAN: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any representation from the Income-tax Officers (Group-B) to upgrade them as Income-tax Officers (Group-A);
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Income-tax Officers (Group.B) and Income-tax Officers (Group.A) are doing the same nature of work in the Income-tax Department; and
- (c) if so, the reason why the Government are not accepting their genuine demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) Representations have been received from the All India Federation of Income Tax Gazetted Services Association₃ that all Income-tax Officers (Group 'B') with five years service should be promoted as Income-tax Officers (Group 'A').

(b) and (c). Although Incometax Officers (Group 'A') and (Group 'B') derive the same powers under the Income Tax Act, generally Income-tax Officers (Group 'A') are intended to be given more important wards and cases, except during their probation and training stages. However, Income-tax Officers charges have not yet been identified on job classification basis to be manned either by Group 'A' or by Group 'B' Incometax Officers. Till such job classification is done, officers are posted keeping in view the requirements of the job and the availability of officers.

Bad quality of Rubber imported from

707. SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of rubber imported from abroad in second half of 1978 was of bad quality for which consuming industry is sore;
- (b) if so, what was the total quantity of such bad rubber and how much money is involved in the same; and
- (c) what factors are responsible for receiving such bad quality rubber from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) to (c). The entire quantity of 41,750 tonnes of natural rubber imported by the State Trading Corporation in the second half of 1978 was of standard quality except 250 tonnes which got damaged by rainy water during the voyage. Even this quantity is usable after drying according to expert technical advice.

Import of Glazed Paper

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to import glazed paper under open general licence scheme;
- (b) if so, factor necessitating to take the decision in this regard; and
- (c) quantity expected to be imported during the next two years and country from where it is to be imported?

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

Users who require "Glazed Mechanical Printing Paper" as a raw material for their production activity, can import their requirement under Open General Licence, subject to the condition laid down in the Import Policy, 1978-79. "Glazed Imitation Parchment Paper" appears in the list of Restricted items in the Import Policy, 1978-79 and allowed for import to Actual Users accordingly.

- (b) Import was considered necessary having regard to domestic production and demand.
- (c) The information is not available at present.

Supersessions in Promotion of Officials in I.A.

709. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that recently there have been supersessions in the promotion of officials in Indian Airlines as a result one of its Director of Operation has asked for premature retirement; and
 - (b) if so, facts thereoi?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURU-SHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). The post of Deputy Managing Director, which was filled recently, is a selection post appointment to which is made with the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. The appointment involved the supersession of one officer which is inherent in any system of appointment by selection.

The officer's request for voluntary retirement was linked with his request for deputation to a foreign airline. The latter request is under consideration.

Implementation of Agreement reached at with Bankmen

710. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) details of agreement reached for calling off strike by Bankmen who had proposed to go on indefinite strike from the 2nd February, 1979;
- (b) whether the agreements reached at have been implemented by Government; and
- (c) if so, when it is expected to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) to (c). On the 21st January 1979 the following Press communique was issued;

"As a result of the discussions the representatives of All India Bank Employees Association, Indian National Bank Employees Congress and the Indian Banks Association had with the Finance Minister and the Labour Minister, a basis for an agreement on the Dearness Allowance formula and for continuing the negotiations has been identified. All the outstanding matters relating to the demands of the employees and the Indian Banks' Association will now be discussed and agreement reached through negotiations. Further negotiations will be continued from 29th January 1979. In view of the basic of agreement that has been identified, the representatives of All India Bank Employees Association and Indian National Bank Employees Congress have agreed to give up non-cooperation and restore normalcy in the functioning of banks with immediate effect."

Negotiations have been resumed and are continuing. It is for the management and the employees representatives to come to a settlement on all outstanding issues. It will not be in the interest of smooth conduct of negotiations and settlement to disclose any further details in this regard at this stage.