

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). The Government are not themselves involved in the import of generating sets for the two steel plants. They have approved the installation of a captive thermal power plant of 2x60 MW at the Rourkela Steel Plant. A similar proposal for the installation of a 3x60 MW captive power plant for the Bhilai Steel Plant is also under their consideration. Floating of tenders etc. and deciding upon imports is the responsibility of the Steel Authority of India Ltd. and the managements of the steel plants under them, who obtain Government's approval where necessary under the rules. The Steel Authority of India have advised that details regarding costs and whether the equipment should be imported or procured from indigenous sources would be known only after the scrutiny of the tender documents has been completed.

Export of Fresh Vegetables

1877. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted export of fresh vegetables on Open General Licences, if so, the export of fresh vegetables during the first six months of 1981 as compared to the first six months of 1980, in quantity and price;

(b) whether it is a fact that the price of green/fresh vegetable has considerably increased in the country, if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the vegetables are exported from Bombay after purchasing them locally, which causes increase in the price of vegetables in the local market; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have developed schemes for export vegetables direct

from the farmers through State Agencies, if so, whether such agencies are still in existence if so, the turnover of them during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Export figures in respect of fresh vegetables other than Onions and Potatoes are given below:

Period	Qty. (MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
Jan-June '81	5240	219.51
Jan-June '80	1627	86.48

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No record is kept of the places from where vegetables are procured for export.

(d) Yes Sir. The exports made by these State Agencies during January—June 1981 are reported to be as under:

	Qty. (MT)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation	291	14.76
Andhra Pradesh State Trading Corporation	1718	86.82

Import of Steel

1878. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the quantity of steel imported during the last three years, year-wise, and the quality of steel imported?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Data on total imports of steel are compiled by

Directorate General Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), Calcutta and these are available only up to the completed year 1978-79. Therefore, data on the total import of steel during 1978-79 and data on import of steel by SAIL during 1979-80 and 1980-81 are given below:—

Year	Quantity		Value
	in tonnes		in Rs. crores
1978-79	10,50,374		354.01
1979-80	13,85,442		448.95
1980-81	10,04,906		358.22

The imports included mostly plates, sheets and coils; billets, structurals and bars and rods, in carbon, high carbon and alloy steel grades.

Vayudoot suffered loss

1879. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD:

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL:

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

(a) is it a fact that "Vayudoot" has suffered a loss of Rs. 29 lakhs since its inception;

(b) is it a fact that suitable aircraft were not put into operation on its routes;

(c) it is also a fact that Committee which examined the Third Airline proposal had suggested other suitable aircraft for use in "Vayudoot" lines;

(d) if so, what were the reasons to induct out-dated Indian Airlines aircraft on these routes;

(e) have Government decided after their experience during the last four months to change the present aircraft of Vayudoot to other suitable aircraft; and

(f) which aircraft are considered by Government as suitable from the operational point of view on these routes?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) The loss for the first four months of Vayudoot's operations is estimated at approximately Rs. 30 lakhs.

(b) Pending selection of a suitable small aircraft, the operations of Vayudoot services were started with aircraft taken on wet-lease from Indian Airlines.

(c) The report of the Committee is under consideration.

(d) As at (b) above.

(e) and (f). Necessary decision on the aircraft to be used by Vayudoot will be taken in the light of the recommendation of the Committee, whose report is under consideration of Government.

Radar System for Leh Airport

1880. SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that the Leh airport does not have a radar system; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION: (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Leh airport is not equipped with a radar system.

(b) All flying to Leh airfield is undertaken during day light hours and in fair weather. Present operational requirements do not justify the installation of a radar system.