

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). There is no restriction on the import of 1st quality Nylon and Polyester filament yarn which are presently on Open General Licence for Actual Users.

Export of Viscose Filament Fabrics

4473. SHRI AHMED MOHAMMED PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of viscose filament fabrics has come down to a great extent because the scheme of supply of indigenous viscose yarn at concessional rates against export has been discontinued ; and

(e) if so, the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). A voluntary scheme for supply of art silk yarn at concessional prices to exporters was in operation before 1977. It was given up on account of unsatisfactory working. In order to increase availability of viscose filament yarn and keep a check on prices, import of this material is permitted on Open General Licence. Exporters can also import it under the advance Licensing Scheme.

Opening of Branch Office of L. I. C. in Gangavati Raichur District, Karnataka

4474. SHRI H. G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to open a branch office of LIC in

Gangavati town in Raichur District of Karnataka ;

(b) if so, when it is going to be implemented ;

(c) the steps so far taken by the Ministry ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT) : (a) to (d). A suggestion to open a branch at Gangavati has been received from the Hon'ble Member. This suggestion will be considered by the LIC while drawing up their programme of opening new branches during 1982-83.

Smuggling of Goods by Darjeeling Mail Train

4475. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of smuggled goods is being carried by the smugglers by Darjeeling Mail Train from New Jalpaiguri to Sealdah station everyday, hiding their goods in bath rooms, first class compartments and sleeper compartments in collusion with the RPF ; and

(b) what steps Government are considering to check huge smuggling of goods on Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bangladesh borders near Siliguri in West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA) : (a) The Customs authorities have detected several cases of smuggled goods being transported from New Jalpaiguri to Sealdah Station on the Darjeeling Mail. These goods were found concealed in the panelling and toilets of railway compartments.