

dent of the Council, inquiry wherever necessary has already been directed and action as warranted by the results of the enquiry will be taken.

### Export of Iron-Ore to Japan

971. SHRI HARINATH MISRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Japan had agreed to take 8.7 million tonnes of iron ore in 1980-81, but less than 7.4 million tonnes could be shipped;

(b) if so, the main reasons for the poor performance in the year 1980-81; and

(c) the remedial measures that have been taken or are proposed to be taken to remove the various bottlenecks in the way of our country to fulfill its iron-ore export targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exports to Japan during April-August, 1980 were adversely affected due to infrastructural constraints. Further, during second half of financial year 1980-81, the Japanese Steel Mills did not lift the agreed tonnage because of recession in the steel industry.

(c) Constant liaison is being maintained by MMTC with Port Authorities and Railways for smooth operations relating to movement and loading of iron ore from various ports. Efforts are also being made to diversify the export markets.

### Replacement of Boeing-70 Aircraft in Airy Lockheed Tristar

972. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to replace

Boeing-707 aircraft in Air India by the Lockheed L-1011 Tristar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the manufacturing company of Lockheed L-1011 Tristar itself is undecided whether to continue with the production programme of this aircraft because several other carriers operating the Lockheed L-1011 Tristar are disposing them of in preference to more fuel-efficient aircraft;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for inducting such a new family of aircraft by Air India;

(d) whether it is also a fact that with the induction of such a new type of aircraft i.e. Lockheed L-1011 Government would require heavy investment for building up separate infrastructural facilities; and

(e) if so, the steps Government propose to take to go in for more fuel efficient aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) The proposal of Air India for acquisition of Tristar aircraft is under consideration.

(b) and (c) This matter has been brought to the notice of the Government and due consideration will be given, before a final decision is taken.

(d) and (e) All relevant factors relating to this proposal will be considered before taking a final decision.

### Agreements with Foreign Countries for Investment in India

973. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agreements signed with foreign countries during the last three months ending 15th November 1981 for investments in India; and