

station during 1981-82. However, operation to Kulu in Himachal Pradesh from Delhi and Chandigarh was re-introduced with HS-748 aircraft with effect from 27th April, 1981.

The following new stations have been brought on the air map by Vayudoot during the year 1981-82 :—

<i>State/Union Territory</i>	<i>Station</i>
Meghalaya	Barapani
Tripura	Kailashahar Kamalpur
Assam	Rupsi
Arunachal Pradesh	Tezu
Punjab	Ludhiana

Representation by Woollen Industry against Disparity in Excise Duty

6633. SHRI DAYA RAM SHAKYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the woollen industry has been making representations against disparity in the burden of excise duty between its products and similar products from cotton and art silk industries;

(b) whether during the 1977-78 Budget, the then Finance Minister in order to rationalise the yarn duty structure for the entire textile industry had raised the duty on polyester wool to Rs. 24/- per Kg. ;

(c) if so, the reasons why during the Finance Bill, 1982 under Tariff item 18E, has the yarn duty only on polyester yarn in blends with cotton man-made and cellulosic fibre been reduced to Rs. 18/- per Kg. ;

(d) are Government aware of the repercussions this discrimination is going to have on the poly-wool sector already passing through a bad phase; and

(e) what concessions Government propose to give to restore status quo to avoid unemployment of many thousands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a result of the 1977 Budget changes the rate of excise duty applicable to polyester/wool blended yarns in which polyester predominated in weight, was fixed at Rs. 24/- per Kg.

(c) In the 1982 Budget the rates of excise duties on blended yarns (containing cotton/cellulosic fibres) have been revised to encourage the use of desirable blends of fabrics and to enable better utilisation of polyester fibre in the textile industry.

(d) and (e). It is not proposed to extend any concession to the polyester/wool blended yarns or fabric at present.

Advances from Banks to Priority Sections

6635. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that priority sector and the 20-Point Programme were overlapping for purposes of getting advances from banks ;

(b) whether it is proposed to change the definition of priority sector and rationalise the credit structure ;

(c) the steps proposed for bringing public sector banks into greater involvement in the 20-Point Programme ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):

(a) to (d). The beneficiaries under the various points of 20 Point Programme involving bank credit fall generally under one or the other categories of priority sector advances of the commercial banks. The identification of the beneficiaries of the programme within the priority sector had been done earlier to ensure uniformity in bank lending to these categories, and to ensure availability to the beneficiaries priority in finance to this sector and to extend various concessions extended to this sector.

A Working Group has been constituted by the Reserve Bank of India to examine needs and other relevant matters relating to the effective implementation of the new 20-Point Programme as well as the needs of the priority sector. The terms of reference of the Working Group include, *Inter-alia*, identification of the tasks for the banking system for implementation of the programme as well as the examination of the scope for modification in the definitions of the priority sector. Existing arrangements and procedures will be further stream-lined on the basis of the recommendations of this Working Group.

Cases of Conspicuous Expenditure in Terms of Section 131 of Income Tax Act

6636. **SHRI R. L. P. VERMA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many cases of 'conspicuous expenditure' in terms of Section 131 of the Income-tax Act have been detected so far since the amended provisions were brought into force in the metropolitan cities, particularly in the capital;

(b) the broad details of these cases and follow-up action taken;

(c) what machinery has been devised to detect such cases when there is extravagant spending on marriages in the capital as reported in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi dated 18th January, 1982; and

(d) what is his reaction to the cases referred to therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA) : (a) and (b). The Income-tax authorities in Ahmedabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras have made enquiries and collected information in nearly two hundred cases under section 133A(5) of the Income-tax Act about expenditure incurred in connection with ceremonies/functions. The particulars gathered are passed on to the assessing officers for being utilised while framing relevant assessments.

(c) and (d). The Commissioners of Income-tax have been asked to make more effective use of provisions of section 133A(5) of the Income-tax Act in such cases.

Location and functioning of Tourist Offices Abroad

6637. **SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and location of tourist offices functioning abroad; and

(b) whether Government had failed to attract tourists from non-traditional areas like Nepal, Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) There are 18 Tourist Offices