

(c) No, Sir. There has been no such proposal from the State Government.

(d) Government's policy on take-over/nationalisation of sick Units was pronounced on 6th October, 1981. Take-over/Nationalisation of an industry is the last method of reactivating sick units. Government's role in terms of this policy decision is primarily to monitor and co-ordinate measures aimed at revival of the sick units, coupled with assistance from the banking and financial institutions who are primarily responsible to take remedial measures, inclusive of financial and managerial restructuring of the units in order to rejuvenate the industry. Only after all these measures have been taken and they have failed to prevent sickness in any unit, can Government think of possible take over or nationalisation in accordance with the prescribed policy circular of 6th October, 1981. In terms of this policy decision, Government do not consider the present moment an appropriate time for considering any measure for takeover or nationalization of the jute industry for whose better functioning Government have been initiating, monitoring and coordinating a number of administrative and fiscal incentives/measures.

Balance of Payment

1432. MOHAMMAD ASRAR AHMAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the state of affairs of balance of payments as on date?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): The balance of payments continues to be under considerable strain. According to the provisional trade data, our exports increased by 13.3 per cent to Rs. 7557 crores in 1981-82 and imports increased by 9.6 per cent to Rs. 13271 crores leaving a trade deficit of Rs. 5714 crores compared with a deficit of Rs. 5813 crores (revised) in 1980-81. Foreign exchange assets of the RBI (excluding gold and SDRs), after allowing for movements in trade, invisibles and capital accounts, declined during the year by Rs. 1467.6 crores. This includes credit

for drawal of Rs. 636.8 crores against the Extended Arrangement with the IMF during 1981-82. During the current fiscal year upto June 25, 1982 foreign exchange assets (excluding gold and SDRs) have shown an increase of Rs. 29.8 crores, taking into account a drawal of Rs. 311.6 crores under the Extended Arrangement with the IMF. In the corresponding period of 1981-82, reserves had declined by Rs. 526.9 crores and there was no drawal from the IMF.

A number of steps have been taken to deal with the balance of payments situation. With a view to restoring viability in our balance of payments position in the medium term Government entered into an Extended Arrangement with the IMF which enables India to purchase upto the equivalent of SDR 5 billion over a three year period. Special attention is being given to import substitution, and efforts are thus being made to increase domestic production of petroleum and petroleum products; fertilisers, steel, edible oils, non-ferrous metals etc. At the same time, efforts are being intensified to increase exports and attract more remittances and investments by non-residents of Indian origin from abroad.

Accidents to Civil Planes

1433. SHRI RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of civil air accidents have occurred in Gujarat and other parts of the country during 1 January, 1982 to 30 June, 1982;

(b) if so, the number and details of air accidents occurred during 1 January, 1981 to 31 December, 1981 and during 1 January, 1982 to 30 June, 1982;

(c) the details of various enquiry reports and findings of such accidents;

(d) the action taken against the responsible persons, employees and officials;

(e) the compensation given or to be given to each person in each accident;