

to India on 4th October, 1983 (one of whom had also carried the unaccompanied baggage of another passenger who was due to arrive separately later) did not clear their dutiable baggage on the spot and left it with the Customs for subsequent clearance for which, in accordance with the usual procedure, detention receipts were issued to them. This baggage included such items as video cassette recorders, radio cassette recorders, colour T.Vs., Cameras and a fire arm of an aggregate value of about Rs. 1,38,000/-.

Some of the passengers have since cleared the dutiable baggage left over by them, wholly or partly, on different dates, on payment of appropriate duty. The amount of duty recovered on the baggage since cleared by these passengers comes to about Rs. 97,000/-. In 2 cases I.T.C. fine was also recovered in addition to the duty leviable.

The declared value of the baggage which is pending clearance comes to about Rs. 90,000/- There was no "unclaimed" baggage; nor was there any case of seizure on this flight on grounds of misdeclaration. There was no previous 'information'.

(e) and (f) The question of sources of funds (foreign exchange) of the passengers who had left their dutiable baggage with the Customs for subsequent clearance and for which detention receipts were issued, will be looked into separately by the concerned authorities.

Supply of Latest Weapons to Pakistan by USA

1667. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news items published in the 'Statesman' of 3 October, 1983 and also in 'Patriot' of 3 October, 1983 wherein it has been stated that U.S.A. is going to provide very advanced weapons and U.S.A. do not have any thing more advanced than F-16 as per statement of U.S. Defence Secretary Mr. Casper Weinberger in Islamabad ;

(b) if so, Indian Government's reaction thereto ; and

(c) the steps taken or are being taken to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government monitor all developments which affect our security environment and take appropriate action to ensure a state of full defence preparedness. It will not be in public interest to disclose the details.

सूरत में औद्योगिक एककों द्वारा उत्पादक-शुल्क की चोरी

1668. श्री छीतूभाई गामित : क्या वित्त मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सूरत और गुजरात में सूती व रेशमी कपड़े तथा इन्जीनियरिंग उत्पाद तैयार करने वाले उन कारखानों के नाम क्या हैं और संख्या कितनी है, जो 1977 से उत्पादन शुल्क की चोरी कर रहे हैं ;

(ख) इन कारखानों ने उत्पाद शुल्क की कितनी राशी की चोरी की और उन के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई तथा तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) उत्पाद-शुल्क की चोरी रोकने के लिए क्या विशेष कदम उठाए गए हैं और तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वित्त मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री पट्टाभि राम राव) :

(क) से (ग)

सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है जिसे सदन-पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

Bifurcation of Posts in DGI as Civilian and Service Posts

1669. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY :
SHRI M. KANDASWAMY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that all the posts in DGI Organisation have now been bifurcated as civilian and service officers posts ;

(b) whether Ministry are processing sanction of a number of Officers posts in the up-coming projects in vehicles/Stores discipline ;

(c) whether Ministry are unable to decide earmarking of the posts on functional and job and basis processing these posts as stroke appointments like Major/SSOI, Lt. Col./PSCO etc. ;

(d) what functional necessity exists for sanction of posts like Brigadier, Colonel etc. for indigenisation work and technical committee activities where there is no element or any military duty ; and

(e) whether Government have at any time compared work done by Civilian Officers vis-a-vis Service Officers in Technical Committee's of Vehicles, electronics etc. and if so, what is their assessment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir. Only Group 'A' posts in the Directorate General of Inspection Organisation have been bifurcated into civilian and service posts.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. All new posts are identified as tenable by service officers or civilian officers.

(d) There is no military duty involved in the functioning of the Directorate General of Inspection Organisation. Certain posts for dealing with the indigenisation work and Technical Committee activities have been earmarked for Service officers (at different levels like Brigadiers, Colonels, etc.) keeping in view the functional requirements and educational qualifications and/or professional qualifications, training and experience.

(e) Since posts are earmarked for officers from the two streams keeping in view the functional requirements, there is no question of any comparison of the work done by the civilian officers vis-a-vis Service officers in the Technical Committee.

Commissioning of Naval Ship "Astra Vahini"

1670. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's first multipurpose naval ship 'Astra Vahini' has been commissioned recently ;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ;

(c) how far it will go in meeting our requirements in the field of reserve, torped, launching and recovery ; and

(d) the extent to which the country has attained competence in naval designing and development of warfare equipment ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) and (b) The ship designed as Torpedo Launch and Recovery Vessel for firing of torpedoes is likely to be commissioned shortly.

(c) The ship would provide adequate facilities for the trials of experimental torpedoes being developed for the Navy.

(d) The capability to design naval warfare equipment in Indian Laboratories is still in the early stages. However, a fair amount of progress in this field as expected in the decade ahead.

Measures to Curb Smuggling on Indo-Nepal Border

1671. SHRI D.L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the latest Indo-Nepal trade agreements indicating names of the contraband articles from both sides and the measures to curb smuggling ;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite the measures adopted there is no reduction in the incidences of smuggling of contraband articles ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that introduction of "Container System" has increased the incidences of smuggling on the border, if so, the measures adopted by Government to curb the smuggling effectively ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAT-TABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) and (b) Indo-Nepal Treaties of Trade, of Transit and Agreement for Co-operation to Control Unauthorised Trade were signed in 1978. While the Treaty of Transit signed in 1978 is valid for a period of seven years, the Treaty