

(b) if so, the powers delegated to Air India's Managers based in foreign countries to incur such an expenditure in foreign exchange on Entertainments and other Contingencies and what check is being exercised over its propriety;

(c) the power delegated to the Managers of the Air-India posted abroad to issue complimentary passes for cross country travels or for international travels to foreigners and others; and

(d) what checks have been devised by Government to ensure that these powers are not being misused?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). Each item of capital expenditure, whether in foreign exchange or not, exceeding Rs 40 lakhs requires approval of the Central Government. Lease of immovable property for a period exceeding 10 years or disposal of any property having an original or book value exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs also requires approval of the Central Government. All expenditure incurred by officers of the Corporation whether in India or abroad is subject to budgetary control and audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General. The Corporation is required to furnish periodic reports of earnings as well as expenditure in foreign exchange to the Reserve Bank.

(c) Issuance of complimentary transportation by Air-India is regulated by IATA Resolution 200, 200g and 200h.

(d) The Board of Air-India has passed a resolution delegating powers to various functionaries and it is the duty of the management to keep an eye on their exercise. Managers are required to submit to Headquarters monthly statements of passes issued.

Seizure of third party goods by the Collectorate of Central Excise, Madurai

5426. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 812 on the 17th November, 1972 and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected and would be laid on the Table, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) how much more time would it take to collect it; and

(c) the latest action taken to release the seized goods and also to recover the Excise Duty already deposited with the manufacturers by the parties concerned and refund the same to the latter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). In implementation of the assurance given on the 17th November, 1972, in reply to Unstarred Question No. 812, the requisite information pertaining to 84 cases of seizure was forwarded to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs on the 19th December, 1972 for being laid on the Table of the House.

Credit facilities to non-coking coal sector

5427. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received any recommendation from the Minister of Steel and Mines about the giving of Credit facilities to the non-coking coal sector in 1971 and 1972; and

(b) if so, how many times and the exact nature of recommendation each time and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.