

this survey were discussed by the Committee of Direction with the State Government authorities in May, 1973. The inter-institutional group consisting of the representatives of the State Government, State Level Financial institutions, all-India term-lending institutions, commercial banks with 'lead' responsibility in different districts and the Reserve Bank of India is looking after, *inter alia*, the follow-up work connected with this survey.

For providing assistance to small scale industry, public sector banks provide funds on liberal basis. They keep constant watch over the credit needs of this sector and initiate suitable credit schemes to suit the requirements of borrowers.

Cash Assistance for Export of Potassium Permanganate

3880. SHRI S. L. PEJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have offered during the years 1970 to 1972 any cash assistance for export of potassium permanganate;

(b) how many companies have availed of this cash assistance concession and what was the quantum of cash assistance paid to such companies during 1970-72; and

(c) the total foreign exchange earned by such export during these years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Cash Assistance at the rate of 15 per cent on the export of Potassium Permanganate was admissible upto September, 1970. It was withdrawn from October, 1970.

(b) The information regarding payment of Cash Assistance is compiled for the group "Chemicals and Allied Products" as a whole and not separately for individual commodities.

(c) Export of Potassium Permanganate for the years 1970-71 to 1972-73 is as under:—

(Value in Rs. lakhs)		
1970-71	1971-72	1972-73
24	10	1

Air Service from Bombay to Ratnagiri and Bombay to Karad and Jalgaon

3881. SHRI S. L. PEJE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have recommended the Central Government to operate air service from Bombay to Ratnagiri and Bombay to Karad and Jalgaon;

(b) whether in the absence of quick air travel facilities, economic and industrial development of these regions is lagging behind;

(c) if so, the steps contemplated by the Central Government to operate these services; and

(d) whether Government intends to permit private companies to operate these services?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (d). No, Sir. No recommendations have been received from the Government of Maharashtra for operation of air services between Bombay and Ratnagiri and Bombay to Karad and Jalgaon. In any case, the aerodromes at Ratnagiri, Karad and Jalgaon, which are maintained by the Government of Maharashtra, are suitable for operation by DC-3 aircraft and only in fair weather.

There is no objection to a private operator on these routes provided he fulfils the requirements laid down in Schedule XI to the Aircraft Rules, 1937.