

**Proposal to stage trade fair at Caracas (Venezuela)**

5758. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH :  
SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to stage a trade fair at Caracas (Venezuela); and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir The proposed Exhibition set up by the India Council of Trade Fairs & Exhibitions started from March 26, 1974 and would continue till April 14, 1974.

A wide range of heavy and light engineering equipments, agricultural equipments, tools, household articles, textiles, hand-crafts, tea, etc. is on display at the Exhibition.

The display is backed by the presence of 20 business representatives of participating firms for business negotiations.

**Phased Programme to Indianise Indian Airlines Fleet**

5759. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH :  
Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any long term study has been undertaken by the Indian Airlines to introduce a phased programme to completely Indianise the Indian Airlines fleet; and

(b) if so, by what time this will be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) and (b). It cannot be stated precisely at this stage whether it will be possible for Indian Airlines to completely Indianise their fleet and at what stage. However, the present fleet of Indian Air-

lines includes the HS-748 which is indigenously manufactured.

**Assistance from Aid India Consortium**

5760. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH :  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantum of assistance to be provided by the Aid India Consortium towards India's foreign exchange requirements during the 1st year of Fifth Plan period has been finalised; and

(b) if so, broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Target for Export of Leather Goods**

5761. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH :  
SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for 1972-73 for the export of leather and finished leather goods and the value of actual exports of these commodities during the same period; and

(b) the target fixed for these exports for 1973-74 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The target for 1972-73 for leather and leather goods, including leather footwear was Rs. 97.50 crores. The actual exports during that year were to the tune of Rs. 187.12 crores.

(b) Rs. 180 crores.

**Proposal to set up a new Products Export Promotion Organisation by STC**

5762. SHRI BANAMALI BABU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation proposes to set up a new products export promotion organisation;

- (b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and  
 (c) what would be the main objectives of this organisation?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) :** (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Shortage of security paper in the country**

5763. **SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether security paper in the country is in short supply and that is a contributing factor to the flood of soiled currency notes in circulation; and

- (b) if so, the remedial measures taken?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) :** (a) There has been some short supply of paper for printing currency notes during the year 1973 due to persistent labour trouble in the Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad. This is one of the reasons for recent increase in the circulation of soiled notes.

- (b) Some bank note paper is being imported. The labour situation in Security Paper Mill has also improved considerably and there may not be any difficulty in reaching the targetted production in 1974-75. Moreover, issue of fresh notes over Reserve Bank's counter is being made consistent with the stock position, the shortfall being made up by re-cycling the notes which can withstand further handling.

**Adverse Balance of Trade with Canada**

5764. **SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether our country is having an adverse balance of trade with Canada; and

- (b) if so, the remedial measures proposed?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The Government have taken various steps for the promotion of our exports such as assistance to exporters, participation in and organisation of exhibitions and trade fairs, sponsoring of sales cum study teams/delegations, undertaking of market survey etc. The Trade Development Authority have also established merchandising contacts with a number of firms in Canada and are in touch with these firms through their New York office.

**Test and Interview held in January 1974 for posts of Assistant Flight Purser**

5765. **SHRI AMBESH :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a competitive test and interview was held in the month of January, 1974 for filling up some posts of Assistant Flight Purser;

- (b) if so, what was the total number of vacancies and how many Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates qualified in the written test and how many were finally cleared in the interview;

- (c) whether the quota for S.C./S.T. was complete, and if not, why not; and

- (d) whether any Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe officer was associated while making selection and if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) :** (a), (b) and (d). In order to prepare a waiting list of candidates for filling up future vacancies of Assistant Flight Purser, competitive tests and interviews were held by Air-India during January, 1974 in Delhi and during November 1973 to February 1974 at Bombay, Bangalore, Calcutta and Madras. 303 Scheduled Caste candidates appeared for the test out of whom 73 qualified and 4 were recommended by the Preliminary Selection