

change earnings and profits of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation; and

(c) if so, the extent thereof and steps taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The total exports of iron ore and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Total Exports	Foreign Exchange Earned
	(Million Tonnes)	(Rs. Crores)
1971-72	19.914	104.69
1972-73	20.610	109.79
1973-74 (Upto Oct.'73)	11.831	65.13

Since exports of iron ore are made both by MMTC as well as by Goan shippers, information relating to profits made on exports are not available with the Government.

(b) and (c) All the iron ore sale contracts of MMTC are on Free On Board Terms. Hence the increase in shipping freight rates have not eroded Corporations profits.

Industrial Ventures in Nepal

9928. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of India owned industrial ventures currently in operation in Nepal;

(b) how many out of them are private ventures and how many are Government sponsored ventures; and

(c) the financial assistance so far given by the Government of India to Nepal for setting up industrial ventures?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) According to the information available with the Government, there are 19 ventures, wholly or partly owned by India, currently functioning in Nepal.

(b) All these are private ventures.

(c) Government of India have not offered any financial assistance so far, as far as industrial ventures are concerned.

Aircraft of Indian Airlines involved in Accidents

9929. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft lost in accidents by the Indian Airlines during the last two years,

(b) the loss of life and financial loss suffered as a result thereof, and

(c) the result of inquiry conducted in each case?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Indian Airlines lost four aircraft in accidents during the years 1972 and 1973.

(b) and (c). Statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7038/74].

Delegations gone abroad

9930. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of official delegations sponsored by his ministry which visit-

ed foreign countries during the last one year upto April, 1974; and

(b) the purpose of their visit, the total expenditure incurred on each delegation and names of countries visited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The number of delegations sponsored by the Ministry of Finance for the twelve month period May 1973 to April 1974 is 57. This does not include the visits abroad of officials of this Ministry as members of delegations sponsored by other Ministries/Departments.

(b) A statement showing the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7038/74].

Set back in Export of Ready-made Garments

9931. **SHRI NIHAR LASKAR;**
SHRI TARUN GOGOI;

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether exports of ready-made garments which reached its peak in 1973-74 is likely to suffer serious set back during the current year due to the non-availability of cargo space in airlines; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Complaints have been received from various quarters about non-availability of cargo space for air lifting of readymade garments. This has arisen from a reduction in cargo flights following the sharp increase in aviation fuel prices. The problem was taken up with Air India through the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation. Air India are according preference to

export cargoes and are also doing everything possible to liquidate the backlog in clearance of cargo by providing additional cargo space on their flights.

Upward Revision of Export Target in Fifth Plan

9932. **SHRI NIHAR LASKAR;**
SHRI TARUN GOGOI;

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Investment Centre has called for an upward revision of the export target in the Fifth Five Year Plan to meet the balance of payments problem aggravated by the international oil crisis;

(b) if so, whether they have suggested the use of latest machinery and technology to increase exports and set up of new export-oriented units;

(c) if so, what are the other suggestions made; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) A Seminar on export promotion was convened on 19th and 20th April, 1974 by the Indian Investment Centre. One of the Panels of the Seminar suggested growth of exports during the Fifth Plan period at an enhanced rate of growth of 15 per cent per annum as compared to a growth rate of 7.6 per cent envisaged in the draft Fifth Plan document.

(b) Seminar was of the view that a massive programme for raising the over all production be launched; key-notes of the programme being (i) optimum utilisation of existing capacity (ii) creation of suitable opportunities for the development of new enterprises primarily for exports.

(c) The other two panels of the Seminar made a number of recommen-