

Selection of new group of Air Hostesses in Indian Airlines

7324. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines Corporation has made it compulsory for some Air Hostesses to proceed on leave,

(b) whether a new group of Air Hostesses has been selected and they are undergoing training, and

(c) if so, the reasons for recruiting this new group while those already in service have been asked to take leave on being considered surplus?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR). (a) During the period of curtailed services, the employees of the Corporation including air hostesses were encouraged to avail of the privilege leave due to them as it was then possible to grant them leave without any dislocation of work

(b) and (c) Eleven candidate air-hostesses, selected in October, 1973 commenced their training at Delhi on the 19th November, 1973. Their training had to be suspended due to the lock-out in Indian Airlines from 24th November, 1973. On resumption of normalcy of operations, the said eleven trainees were recalled for completion of their training from 25th February, 1974

Review of working of canalisation policy in Foreign Trade

7325. SHRI Y ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the report of the Committee set up last year to review the working of the canalisation policy in foreign trade, has been received; and

(b) if so, what are the main recommendations of the Committee and Government's decision thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) and (b) The report of the Committee has not been received as yet. It is expected to be received shortly.

Boosting export of Handicrafts

7326 SHRI Y ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been made by Government to boost the export of Indian handicrafts during the Fourth Plan and if so, the results achieved,

(b) whether Government are aware that Indian Craft Society's venture has an ambition and commandable plan to boost the exports, and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE). (a) Yes, Sir. Exports of handicraft items increased from Rs 40.45 crores in 1969-70 to Rs 55.00 crores (Provisional) in 1973-74

(b) Government has not been informed about this

(c) Does not arise

Export Corporation for Diamonds

7327 SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to set up a new export corporation for diamonds; and