

operational efficacy while enabling it to function as the main focal point for taking decisions on all applications for industry licences, import of capital goods, foreign collaboration, MRTP clearance, wherever required, and for clearance under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

(c) The Zone has achieved continued progress, as indicated by exports, which increased from 128.84 lakhs in 1972 to 149.18 lakhs in 1973 and 218.59 lakhs in 1974.

Passenger baggages lost, misplaced, damaged on flights of Indian Airlines

3466. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether passenger baggages are lost, misplaced, damaged on the flights of Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof;

(c) whether the passengers who lose their belongings are promptly and properly reimbursed for the compulsory expenses they are subjected to incur; and

(d) if so, the full facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). Despite best efforts on the part of Indian Airlines for careful and efficient handling of passengers' baggage one or two pieces of baggage get misplaced or miscarried or even damaged due to human error, particularly during rush periods of traffic. During the course of the last 6 months, Indian Airlines carried on an average, 2,32,000 passengers per month and as many as 11 pieces of baggage only were miscarried or damaged.

(c) and (d). In cases of pieces of baggage lost or damaged the concern-

ed passenger is given monetary compensation to meet his immediate needs and every effort is made to trace the lost baggage and restore it to the passengers.

Disposal of confiscated goods

3467. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: DR. R. P. SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have failed to dispose of the goods confiscated from smugglers;

(b) if so, value of the goods still in custody of Government and what difficulties are being faced by Government; and

(c) further steps being taken to dispose of these goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The value of confiscated goods pending disposal as on 1st January, 1975 is Rs 619 lakhs approximately. The Government has not faced any difficulty in the disposal of confiscated goods. However, with a view to further speed up the pace of disposals, the Government has recently issued a new set of instructions to the field formations.

Deadlock between India and E.E.C. on quota of Cotton Textile Exports

3468. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a virtual deadlock between India and E.E.C. on the quota of cotton textile exports to the Community; and

(b) if so, the reasons and facts thereof?