

assessment of earnings of foreign exchange as a result of GSE scheme of U.S.A.

Muzaffarpur-Patna Air Service

1362. **SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is any proposal to re-start Muzaffarpur-Patna air service;

(b) if so, whether it is to be extended upto Raxaul; and

(c) the time by which the service is proposed to be resumed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) to (c). Indian Airlines have no plans at present to resume air services to Muzaffarpur or to extend any of their services to Raxaul. However, nine routes including Calcutta-Gaya-Muzaffarpur-Patna-Varanasi which are not being operated by the Corporation at present, have been offered to private operators by the Director General of Civil Aviation. Applications received are under examination.

Purchasing of cotton by National Textiles Corporation

1383. **SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state-

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation has to pay commission to agents for purchasing cotton and other materials on credit;

(b) if so, amount of commission and at what stage it is paid;

(c) whether National Textile Corporation is purchasing cotton bales at 3300 as against cash sale price of 2600 or so; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to remedy this?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Purchases of cotton are generally made directly from Cotton Corporation of India, Maharashtra Marketing Co-operative Federation and Co-operative Societies or traders. Normal terms of payment are cash against delivery. Due to inadequacy of working capital, some Subsidiaries purchased cotton on credit by paying commission to the commission agents. In case of coal supplies, payment is made to commission agents after the receipt of coal in the mills whereas payment is made by commission agents in advance to the suppliers.

(b) The information is being collected.

(c) and (d). Considering the number of purchase transactions in respect of cotton for all the nationalised mills, actual position needs verification. This is being done. Nevertheless, Cotton purchases have now been centralised at the Subsidiary level and directions have been issued by the Holding Company to the Subsidiaries to purchase cotton from Public Sector agencies such as Cotton Corporation of India, Maharashtra Co-operative Marketing Federation and at what stage it is paid;

Payment of income tax by Indians serving abroad

1384. **SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indians serving abroad have to pay income tax in India if their stay in India is more than forty days in a financial year; and

(b) whether Government propose to relax this period to attract more