

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : They are also consumers of rubber and naturally they will need rubber.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Sir, my question has not been replied. I wanted to know whether any memorandum has been received by the Government from the tyre manufacturers.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, about the memorandum I will have to check up.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Sir, if you permit I want to ask a very pertinent question.

MR. SPEAKER : No. No. I have passed on to the next question. I am not going to make flexible my rule today otherwise it would hurt me.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : It is a very pertinent question. May I put the question ?

MR. SPEAKER : Next time. You did once today.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Sir, in view of our experience of yesterday and today, the maximum number of oral questions put down for a day should be increased.

MR. SPEAKER : The question List is over. I will go over the List again so that if any of the absent Members are now present they may put their questions. . . I find no such Member is present. We will take up the next item.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Export of Gold Ornaments

*162. **SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state :

(a) how much gold ornaments were exported during 1985 till date;

(b) what is the contribution of India in the world market of gold ornaments; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to increase the export of gold ornaments from India keeping in view their increasing demand in the world market ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Export of gold jewellery from India during April—October, 1985 are estimated to be of Rs. 53.13 crores.

(b) Indian exports of gold jewellery constitute a negligible share of the world trade in precious metals jewellery.

(c) Product and market development for gold jewellery exports in addition to liberalisation of policies governing the export production of gold jewellery are some of the important steps taken by the Government in this regard.

[English]

Misuse of Baggage Concession

*164 **SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether large scale misuse of baggage concession under the baggage rules with proliferation of "Carrier" traffic was brought home by the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken in the light thereof to prevent misuse of these rules by passengers undertaking frequent trips to neighbouring countries to take out and bring goods from and into the country which allow big margin of profit due to difference in prevailing prices thereof in the country and abroad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI) : (a) In its Seventh report presented to the Eighth Lok Sabha, the Public Accounts Committee had urged that Government should devise a system which would combine faster clearance of passengers with prevention of abuse of baggage rules.