

of India Limited do not export iron ore to Iran. Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited had entered into a contract with Iran for export of iron ore concentrates w.e.f. August 1980. However, Iran showed its inability to lift the material. Now Iran has agreed to take a trial shipment from India soon.

Vigorous efforts are being made by MMTC to locate new overseas export markets. MMTC is making a trial shipment of 30,000 tonnes of iron ore to China in December, 1984. An export target of 26 million tonnes has been fixed for the year 1984-85 as against 24 million tonnes for the year 1983-84.

As regards iron ore concentrates produced by KIOCL, vigorous efforts have been made by the Company to locate overseas export markets. As a result, contracts have been signed with Romania, Czechoslovakia and Bahrain for a total quantity of 4.16 million tonnes for exports between 1981 and 1985. Out of this, more than 3 million tonnes has been shipped upto July, 1984. Balance quantity is likely to be shipped by the end of the year 1984-85. Possibilities of export of iron ore concentrates to other countries are also being explored.

Credit Deposit Ratio in Madhya Pradesh

*305. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to lay a statement showing credit-deposit ratio in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years and state :

(a) whether there has been a fall in the credit-deposit ratio by 2 per cent ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POJARY) : (a) to (c). On the basis of provisional data received from Reserve Bank of India the credit-deposit ratio of all scheduled commercial banks in Madhya Pradesh has remained constant at 60.7 per cent over the

three years in June 1981, June 1982 and June 1983.

2. However, the credit-deposit ratio in Madhya Pradesh was lower than the all-India average which for the corresponding period was as follows :

June 1981	67.2
June 1982	67.0
June 1983	68.1

3. The banks have been advised to take necessary steps for improving the credit deployment in the States where credit-deposit ratio is low. The State Governments have also been requested to strengthen their infrastructure so that the level of economic activity can be raised to absorb credit on a larger scale.

Items whose Price Hikes Resulted in Escalation of Costs of Public Sector Projects

*306. SHRI SURAJ BHAN :
SHRI ATAL BEHARI
VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the name of such important items the price hikes of which resulted in escalation of costs of public and private sector projects in the Sixth Plan ;

(b) the revenue Government collected in each of the last three years by these hikes and how much resultant escalation in costs of public sector projects was there and provision for resources from financial institutions was required for private sector projects ; and

(c) the present policy regarding price-hikes of such items which lead to huge burdens on Government and financial institutions ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c). Upward revision was made during the Sixth

Plan period in the administered prices of inputs like iron and steel, cement, coal and aluminium etc., which would no doubt have affected project costs. Upward adjustment in these prices was considered necessary to cover costs and improve the viability of the producing units and not to raise revenue.

In the absence of such revision the burden of higher costs normally falls upon the economy as a whole via the impact on the Budget arising from the losses of the public sector enterprises. It is not possible to isolate the impact of the revision of administered prices on the project costs as costs are affected by many factors operating simultaneously. However, while carrying out revision in the prices of inputs which are administered, the implications for projects costs and the burden on the Budget and the financial institutions are kept in mind.

Complaint about Catering Services in Aircraft

*307. SHRI BISHNU PRASAD : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry have received many complaints against the catering services inside the aircraft of Indian Airlines ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by his Ministry in regard to the complaints and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) Some complaints against the catering service in Indian Airlines have been received.

(b) Improvement in the standard of inflight catering is an continuing process. It is the constant endeavour of Indian Air-

lines to provide good quality food on flights. Some of the measures taken recently to improve the standard of inflight catering are as under :

- (i) To ensure improved quality of food through competition, Indian Airlines uplifts meals from more than one caterer at the same station ;
- (ii) Pre-flight quality control checks have been intensified ; and
- (iii) Additional vegetarian meals are being placed on all flights to meet any last minute shortages.

Construction of Hotels by ITDC in Orissa

*308. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of hotels under construction by India Tourism Development Corporation in Orissa ;

(b) the number of hotels under construction by ITDC in joint collaboration with Orissa Tourism Development Corporation at different places in Orissa ; and

(c) the progress made in the completion of the construction of these hotels ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) : (a) The ITDC hotel at Bhubaneswar is being expanded.

(b) One.