

(b) On the basis of a complaint lodged by a lady passenger about the loss of her hand bag on 17.6-84 at Bombay airport, the Bombay police called 4 Indian Airlines loaders for interrogation. One of them was alleged to have been manhandled by the police during interrogation which incited the general category employees of the Air Corporation Employees Union to go on a strike.

(c) The demands were :

- (i) No employee would be called for interrogation by the police on any issue connected with the discharge of his duties ; and
- (ii) Indian Airlines must file a criminal complaint against the concerned Police Inspector who is alleged to have manhandled one of the loaders.

(d) to (f) The Air Corporation Employees Union had submitted a Charter of Demands in May, 1982 relating to wage increase and revision of terms and conditions of service of various categories of employees of Indian Airlines. Negotiations were held and a memorandum of understanding, covering the general category of employees of Indian Airlines, was signed with the ACEU in September, 1983.

Loan from Japan

*92. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been made with Japan to get loan from Japan ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the terms and conditions thereof : and

(d) the purposes for which the loan will be utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) During the Calender Year 1984, the Government of Japan have announced a loan assistance of Yen 34.73 Billion (equivalent

to Rs. 150.9 crores approximately) for the year 1983-84 and another loan assistance of Yen 37.36 Billion equivalent to Rs. 162.3 crores approximately) for the year 1984-85. Notes between the Government of India and the Government of Japan have already been exchanged on the 11th May, 1984 for the former, while the Notes between the two Governments for the latter are expected to be exchanged shortly. However, the Government of India have already conveyed to the Government of Japan its acceptance for the loan assistance for 1984-85. Steps are being taken to effectuate loan agreements for each project between the Government of India and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan for the above loan assistance.

2. The loan assistance for the year 1983-84 of Yen 34.73 Billion will be used for the procurement of goods and services in respect of the following projects :-

	Amount in Yen Billion
(1) Vijaipur Fertilizer Plant Project	15.00
(2) Telecommunication Expension Project	5.43
(3) Ammonium Sulphate Caprolactam Project	10.20
(4) Nitrophosphate Fertilizer Plan Project	4.10

Total : Yen 34.73 Billion

3. The loan assistance for the year 1984-85 of Yen 37.36 Billion will be used for the procurement of goods and services in respect of the following projects :-

	Amount in Yen Billion
(1) Aonla Fertilizer Plant Project	8.195
(2) Telecommunication Network Expension Project	7.535
(3) Gas pipeline Project Hazira-Vijaipur Sector)	20.00
(4) Eastern Gandak Canal Hydroelectric Project	1.630

Total : Yen 37.36 Billion

4. The above loan assistance is repayable over a period of 30 years including a grace period of 10 years and carries an interest rate of 3.25% per annum except the loan for Ammonium Sulphate Caprolactam Project which has an interest rate of 3.75% per annum. The loan amount will be disbursed over a period of five years from the date of signing of the loan agreement.

Steps to Increase Production of Coins and Currency Notes

*93. SHRI K. MALLANNA :

SHRI CHHITTUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to set up a new Mint and a Security Press to increase production of coins and currency notes;

(b) whether Government are aware of the continuing acute shortage of small coins and one-rupee notes in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir; the proposals are under active consideration of the Government.

(b) Reports regarding shortage of small coins and one-rupee notes are being received from time to time.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The steps taken and proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the availability of coins (including small coins) and currency notes are enumerated below:-

A. COINS

(i) The working hours in all the three Mints have been increased alongwith

the operation of Group Incentive Schemes, on account of which the output has registered substantial increase;

(ii) In order to increase the minting capacity, additional coining presses are being imported of which some have already come;

(iii) It has been decided to introduce a second shift in the Calcutta Mint; and

(iv) A proposal is under active consideration for setting up of one more Mint.

CURRENCY NOTES

(v) The working hours in the Currency Note Press, Nasik Road and the Bank Note press, Dewas have been extended to 11 hours per shift in addition to the operation of Group Incentive Schemes in both the Presses so as to obtain higher productivity within the extended working hours;

(vi) A partial second shift has been introduced in the Bank Note Press, Dewas which will be followed after some time by the introduction of 7-day per week working in that Press;

(vii) In order to cater the increased requirement of currency note paper on account of the steps taken at (v) and (vi) above, an order has already been placed for import of 1750 tonnes of currency paper to supplement the availability thereof from Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad; and

(viii) A proposal is under active consideration for the setting up of another Security Printing Press.