

**Trade Agreement between India and West Germany**

\*90. **SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement was signed between India and West Germany at New Delhi recently in order to achieve self-sufficiency in synthetic fibres; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof }

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

(a) An agreement between the Government of India, the Government of Federal Republic of Germany and the United Nations Development Programme for establishment of a demonstration plant for the production of synthetic fibres was signed on 12th February, 1976

(b) The Federal Republic of Germany and UNDP will provide equipment, expertise and training facilities valued at DM 5.0 million and US \$ 7.35,000 plus or minus 15 per cent respectively for the project. The Government of India will provide at its expense (presently estimated to be Rs 1,98,59,600) all other contributions necessary for the establishment operation and maintenance of the project, including premises, installations, locally available equipment, raw materials, utilities and staff. The project will be executed by Silk and Art Silk Mills Research Association (SASMIRA), one of the Co-operative Research Associations of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

**Export by office-bearers of Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development**

\*91. **SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some office-bearers of AVARD (Association of Voluntary

Agencies for Rural Development) and other organisations affiliated to it were dealing in the export business of silver, ivory and books; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):** (a) and (b). There is no information at present with us to show if any office-bearers of the Association mentioned or other organisations affiliated to it have been exporting anything. Information on the subject is however being collected.

**Calicut Airport**

\*92. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) at what stage is now the construction of Calicut airport; and

(b) when it is likely to be completed?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR):** (a) and (b). The project for construction of an Aerodrome at Calicut was included in the Draft Fifth Five Year Plan. Land was acquired and fenced at Calicut. However, due to increase in the cost of operation consequent on hike in prices of aviation fuel and also to their tight fleet position, Indian Airlines had to review their plans and found themselves unable to operate to Calicut in the Fifth Plan. Bombay—Calicut—Cochin is one of the nine routes offered to non-scheduled operators by Director General of Civil Aviation. One or two non-scheduled operators have shown interest to operate air services on this route and their application is under consideration. A private owned airstrip near Calicut is proposed to be improved for these operations.