

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

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Domestic demand and supply position and international prices are taken into consideration for taking such decisions.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: In the light of the answer given by the Minister, may I know which of the chemicals, and under what circumstances, have been exempted from export orders?

MR. SPEAKER: Is it a long list or is it only a few items?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: There are about 17 items. It is a long list.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: He may give us the circumstances.

MR. SPEAKER: Then you can give the reasons.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The reasons are two-fold. One is that the domestic supply in these commodities has become easier and there has been a surplus and we have allowed exports of the same and removed the ban because there were distress conditions about the accumulation of stocks. Secondly, the domestic prices were very much higher than the international prices and exports were not a practicable feasibility. There was no point in continuing with the list because practically the exports could not take place.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: May I know the steps taken by the Government about the export of these chemicals to earn foreign exchange as usual?

MR. SPEAKER: This means the chemicals which are exempted.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: They are seventeen in num-

ber. In the case of those chemicals which have export potential, additional capacities are sanctioned.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: The hon. Minister has stated that they are surplus because their production is high. That is the reason why export is being permitted. Is it so?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The export is permitted because of both these reasons. They apply separately to separate zones.

MR. SPEAKER: The number of chemicals is 17. Can you mention one or two important chemicals?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Aniline, Nitro-Benzene, D.M.T., Citric Acid and so on.

Where the raw material is in surplus supply we have allowed the export of the same but where the domestic price is higher than the international price we have not allowed it.

SHRI D. N. TIWARY: What is the total production of these chemicals and what is the consumption in the country so that we may know about the shortages and the surpluses?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I do not have the exact figures for this.

Aid to Priority Sectors by IDBI

*814. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Industrial Development Bank of India proposes to give maximum aid to priority sectors; and

(b) if so, on what projects Industrial Development Bank of India proposes to lay emphasis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). In terms of its Charter, the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) is the principal financial institution for coordinating, in conformity with national priorities, the working of institutions engaged in financing, promoting or developing industry, for assisting the development of such institutions and for providing credit and other facilities for the development of industry. It, therefore, functions within the general framework of Government's policies and programmes of industrialisation under the Five-Year Plans.

It provides direct financial assistance to industries in the large and medium scale sector and re-finances/other financial institutions assisting the small scale sector. It is the policy of the IDBI to ensure that no viable project is allowed to languish for want of funds.

While laying emphasis on the completion of projects which are already sanctioned assistance and which face cost over-runs, for reasons beyond the control of the promoters, the IDBI takes into consideration, generally the following criteria in extending credit to new projects or expansion of existing projects, or in extending re-finance assistance to other institutions:—

- (i) The projects should be in the core sector of industry and more particularly in the priority sector of industry as declared by Government, e.g., fertiliser, cotton textile, cement, paper and sugar;
- (ii) Projects located in the specified backward regions;

- (iii) Projects resulting in significant saving or earning of foreign exchange;
- (iv) Projects promoted by technicians or new entrepreneurs;
- (v) Projects producing essential mass consumption goods and having short gestation periods as they have good anti-inflation impact on the economy; and
- (vi) refinancing other institutions which assist projects promoted in the small scale sector.

SHRI P. GANGADEB: In view of the fact that there is a report that the IDBI is short of finance, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what Government propose to do to increase the lending capacity and whether there is any proposal to permit IDBI to raise loans from the public.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: We are not giving them any budgetary support but in order to increase their capital we have permitted them to float loans in the market.

SHRI P. GANGADEB: How much has the IDBI lent to the industrialists, how much has been repaid and how much has the interest been paid?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I can give the figures so far as the assistance in the priority sector...

MR. SPEAKER: Is it not published in the Annual Report of the IDBI?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: Yes, this is a published document.

MR. SPEAKER: So, it is all right.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: The criteria laid down has been very attractive and they are six.

The Bihar Government in the case of an industry Graphite Electro-applied

to the IDBI. This Graphite Electro is in North Bihar and fulfils the criteria as it is in the backward region. Another criterion is about the saving of or earning foreign exchange. This Graphite Electro has repeatedly requested the IDBI....

MR. SPEAKER: This is regarding a single industry. You can write to the Minister.

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: I would request the Minister to let us know, if the criteria are fulfilled in toto, are the IDBI....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member may write to the Minister. He will give the Member the information because the Minister may not have information about this particular industry just now.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Some time back the hon. Minister had mentioned that IDBI would open a special window for the sick mills-textile or jute mills.

May I know from when these are going to be opened?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: They are going to have a special cell to look into the sick industries and particularly priority sectors. Textile comes within the priority sector. So, they are going to have this particular thing.

MR. SPEAKER: None of the Members is present even at this stage. The question list is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Air Services by Indian Airlines

*798. **SHRI VEKARIA;**
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received any representation for start-

ing air services by Indian Airlines on certain routes during the year 1975-76; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a). Yes, Sir. A number of representations have been received.

(b). By readjusting the pattern of operations on certain routes, Indian Airlines Corporation have since provided following connections:—

- (1) Bombay-Forbandar
- (2) Delhi-Raipur
- (3) Bangalore-Mangalore

The Corporation also propose to resume air services between Bombay-Keshod and between Hyderabad-Visakhapatnam via Vijayawada in the near future. Indian Airlines are also considering airlinking Bangalore and Goa in their Winter Schedule, 1976.

Contracts signed by JCI for import of Raw Jute

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

(a) whether Jute Corporation of India has signed a number of contracts for import of raw jute; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Jute Corporation of India has entered into contracts for import of about 4 lakh bales of low grade jute of Bangladesh and mesta from Thailand. Imports are at negotiated prices and payments are to be made by confirmed and irrevocable letters of credit. A quantity of 2.15 lakh bales has already been received and the balance is expected to be received before the end of June, 1976.