

Advances to States for Supply of Essential Commodities to Weaker Sections of Society

277. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) total amount and its State-wise break-up of the finance advanced for supply of essential commodities to weaker sections of the people of our country; and

(b) the details about the implementation of this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) There is no scheme for giving advance to State Governments for supply of essential commodities to weaker sections; and

(b) In view of the answer at (a) above this part of the question does not arise.

Air Accident Investigation Commission

*278. SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the funds allocated for setting up of an independent Air Accident investigation Commission in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): A sum of Rs. 94,000 has been provided in the Budget Estimates of the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation (Main) for the year 1975-76 for posts created in connection with the setting up of the Air Accident Investigation Commission.

Paper Published by N.C.A.E.R. on Indian Economy

*279. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of a paper published by National

Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) on the Indian Economy;

(b) whether Government agree with the suggestions made in the paper; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) to (c). Government has noted the suggestions made in an article on 'The Indian Economy—1974-75', by Sri S. Bhoothalingam which appeared in the quarterly Journal of the National Council of Applied Economic Research, February 1975. Most of the suggestions made in the article are dealt with in the Economic Survey, 1974-75. Some of the major suggestions made like raising the tempo of the plan and the accent on larger production in agriculture and industry have been given due consideration in the Annual Budget for 1975-76.

Indian Airlines Service to Khowai, Kamalpur and Kailashahar

*280. SHRI DASARATHA DEB: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to restore I. A. C. services to Khowai, Kamalpur and Kailashahar in the State of Tripura; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). Owing to tight fleet position and heavy increase in the price of aviation fuel it would not be possible for Indian Airlines to restore air services to Khowai, Kamalpur and Kailashahar in the foreseeable future.

Besides the airfields at these stations are suitable only for Dakota operations. Indian Airlines has phased out Dakotas from its fleet due to the steep increase in the price of aviation fuel.