

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

**Amount paid to each surviving Passenger of Boeing Air crash near Palam Airport on 31-5-73 for medical treatment**

\*181. SHRI BHOLA MANJHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had declared to pay Rs. 100 each as daily expenses to the passengers who survived the Boeing air crash near Palam Airport on the 31st May, 1973 in order to enable them to get medical treatment; and

(b) if so, how much amount Government have paid to each survivor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). Indian Airlines has paid a sum of Rs. 2000/- to each of the 15 surviving passengers of the crash to help cover their out of pocket expenses during hospitalisation. The Corporation has received a bill in respect of one passenger and a claim from another on account of temporary disablement. Both these are in the process of being settled.

**Nationalisation of Jute Industry**

\*187. SHRI MOHAMMED ISMAIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the long-standing demand for nationalisation of Jute Industry; and

(b) if so, the reason for delaying the takeover of the industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government do not at present have any proposal under their consideration for the nationalisation of Jute industry.

**Impact of downward float of US Dollar on India's Export**

\*189. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: **Dollar on India's Export**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(o) whether India's export has been hit by the downward float of U.S. dollar; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to keep up the exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) and (b). In the absence of trade data of India's exports to the U.S. during the current period of 1973 and the international monetary situation still remaining fluid, it is not possible to say precisely about the effect of dollar devaluation on our exports to U.S.A. However, in view of the appreciation of the Indian rupee in relation to the U.S. dollar (which is likely to make Indian products in the U.S. market a little more expensive than before), some slowing-down in the tempo of our exports to U.S.A. is possible.

Jute goods hold a predominant place in India's exports to U.S.A., accounting for nearly half of the total value of exports to that country. To meet the situation, and to improve the competitive position of Indian jute goods in the U.S. market the export duty on primary carpet backing has been reduced from Rs. 300 per tonne to Rs. 200 per tonne and that on secondary carpet backing from Rs. 700 to Rs. 300 per tonne with effect from 12th June, 1973.

**Enquiry about items whose export to Japan can be increased**

\*190. SHRI M. S. PURTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has asked the Indian Government for a list of items