

ing, as would be evident from the figures placed below:

(Value in Rs lakhs)

Year	Exports	Imports	Balance in Trade
1975-76 .	78	2212	-2134
1976-77.	887	2	+885
1977-78 (April-July 1977)	557	*1.2	

(*Figures provisional)

(Source - DGC&S, Calcutta)

(b) Trade Agreement was signed with Pakistan on 23-1-75 with a validity of three years. The Government of Pakistan has been requested to continue this Agreement for another period of six months or till a new Agreement is signed, whichever may be earlier

The main items of export from India to Pakistan have been tea, bidi wrapper leaves, iron and steel, rubber tyres and tubes, Textile yarn, machinery and transport equipment, Aluminium and metal products, etc.

The main items of import from Pakistan have been raw cotton, rock salt, medicinal herbs etc

(c) Trade Review Talks between India and Pakistan are expected to be held shortly

Proposal to take over Wholesale Trade in Ten Essential Commodities

*250. SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state -

(a) whether 'CPM led front Government' has proposed to Union Government in accordance with their Party resolution urging it to take over the wholesale trade in ten essential commodities to check the price spiral; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) and (b). No such proposal is at present under consideration of the Central Government.

Tea Industry

*251. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tea industry in the country is facing uncertain future due to fall in prices both at home and abroad; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

तस्करों न करने की शपथ लेने वाले तस्कर

*252 श्री सुरेश सिंह : क्या बिस्व मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वे तस्कर जिन्होंने गत वर्ष बम्बई में श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण के समक्ष तस्करों की गतिविधियों में भाग न लेने की शपथ ली थी, फिर से सक्रिय हो गये हैं; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उनकी संख्या और नाम क्या हैं ?

बिस्व मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री स्तीश जयपाल) : (क) और (ख). सरकार को किसी रिपोर्टों में पता नहीं चलता कि पिछले वर्ष बम्बई में जिन तस्करों ने श्री

जयप्रकाश नारायण के समक्ष शपथ ली थी, उन्होंने अपनी नस्करो की गतिविधियां फिर से शुरू कर दी हैं, फिर भी, स्थिति पर बराबर निगाह रखी जा रही है।

Import of Polyester Filament Yarn

*253. SHRI A. MURUGESAN:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state-

(a) the policy regarding import of Polyester filament Yarn and the reasons for change in policy effected from time to time during the last twelve months;

(b) the number and names of big business houses who have been allowed to import, and the quantity and value permitted to be imported; and

(c) the extent to which small scale industries have been affected by the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No. LT-1766/78]

(b) Under the general policy for Registered Exporters, holders of import replenishment licences who were eligible to import this material directly, are not required to obtain the prior permission or any endorsement on their licences from the Licensing authority. Hence details are not available. During the period from 22nd August, 1977, to 2nd September 1977, Export Houses and eligible manufacturers could also import the material on their own.

(c) The new policy has not adversely affected the small scale industries.

Aircraft in IAC and AI Fleets

*254. SHRI C. N. VISWANATHAN:
SHRI A. BALAJANOR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the number, value and types of aircraft purchased and added to the fleet of I.A.C. and Air India during the last twelve months and similar details for those to be purchased during coming year;

(b) whether the proposal of former Government to purchase VIP Boeings was rescinded at first by present Government and revived later, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor with full facts of the case?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c). Indian Airlines purchased 3 additional Boeing 737 aircraft at a price of US 8 01 million per aircraft (approximately Rs 7.2 crores excluding Customs Duty) during 1977 for addition to their fleet. Air-India placed orders during 1977 for 2 Boeing-747 aircraft and the first of these two costing US \$35.605 million including the cost of airframe, installed engines and master changes, was delivered in February, 1978. The second Boeing 747 aircraft is expected to be delivered in July, 1978 and the estimated cost of aircraft including airframe and installed engines is US \$39 715 million. The provision for buyer furnished equipment fitted/to be fitted on these two aircraft is estimated at US \$1.700 million and US \$1.870 million respectively. During 1978, Indian Airlines propose to purchase two additional A300B2 Airbus Aircraft. Proposal for this is still under the consideration of Government. Air-India are considering placement of an order for one Boeing-747 aircraft in lieu of the one lost in the accident on 1st January, 1978, the cost of which has not yet been finalised.

The proposal of former Government to purchase Boeing aircraft for VIPs