

### Exports and Imports

3754. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the figures of India's exports and imports for the year ended 31st March, 1977 and how do they compare with those of the previous year;

(b) how does the export performance tally with the targets set for each major item; and

(c) in case of shortfall the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DRARIA): (a). India's overall exports (including re-exports) during 1976-77 updated total amounted to Rs. 5089.38 crores as against Rs. 4042.81 crores in 1975-76 showing a rise of 25.9 per cent. Total imports during the year were Rs. 5021.78 crores as compared with Rs. 5265.22 crores in 1975-76, a decline of 4.8 per cent.

(b) and (c). Provisional data indicates that exports for most of the major items have exceeded the expectations for the year with the exception of a few items like jute manufactures & sugar. The shortfall in jute manufactures can be attributed to stiff competition from synthetics and other major exporting countries. Sugar exports declined mainly because of depressed level of international prices.

### CBI Investigation into Cases of ITDC

3755. SHRI SHANKERSINHJI VAGHELA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain cases of Indian Tourism Development Corporation have since been referred to the CBI for investigation;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof;

(c) the progress so far made in the investigation by CBI; and

(d) the names of persons along with their designations involved in the cases under investigation by CBI?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The matter is under investigation and it will not be in the interest of proper investigation to disclose the details at this stage.

### Air India Flights to Tehran

3756. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether pilots of Air India have decided not to undertake flights to Tehran since 1st July, 1977;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c). The Indian Pilots Guild had given a directive to its members not to undertake flights through Tehran with effect from 1st July, 1977 till the problem of hotel accommodation for the pilots at Tehran was resolved. This directive was later kept in abeyance till 9th July 1977. The Management of Air India have been able to secure alternative accommodation at Tehran acceptable to the Indian Pilots Guild who have now withdrawn the directive.

### Embezzlement Case Involving Central Bank-Sami Patel

3757. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bank-Sami Patel million pound embezzlement case in London has taken a new turn;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) since when the case is going on?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). Central Bank of India has reported that all legal proceedings, both civil and criminal, relating to the fraud in the Bank's London Branch in 1969-70 involving Shri Sami Patel, the then Manager are over, except the bankruptcy proceedings against Shri Sami Patel, in which though the judgment has been ordered against Shri Sami Patel, the recovery proceedings are still pending. The criminal case against Shri Sami Patel and his two accomplices, was decided by the Central Criminal Court, London in 1972 ending in the conviction of all the three. The civil cases against the various parties involved in this case, were also settled by the bank by 1974.

Central Bank of India is not aware of any new developments in this matter.

**CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 845 DATED 17-6-1977 re: AIR PASSENGERS FROM MIDDLE EAST TO COCHIN AND TRIVANDRUM.**

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): In the reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Question No. 845, given on the 17th June, 1977 it has been stated *inter alia* that passengers travelling from Trivandrum to Bombay and from Bombay to Trivandrum are now allowed to travel via Madras without any additional cost, as a temporary measure. It has since been found that this position is not wholly correct in as much as Passengers from Bombay to Trivandrum are not allowed to travel via Madras without any additional cost. The correct reply is as under:—

“(b) (ii) Passengers travelling from Trivandrum to Bombay are now allowed to travel via Madras without any additional cost, as a temporary measure.”

The error is regretted.

**Re: DEATHS DUE TO LIQUOR POISONING IN DELHI**

12.30 hrs.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tiruchirapalli): Sir, yesterday, a tragic incident had taken place in Delhi due to liquor poisoning. Previously also, on two or three occasions, such incidents had taken place in one part of the country or the other irrespective of which party was in power. But this is a very horrible incident which had taken place yesterday in West Delhi. This House should discuss this matter. I would request you that in consultation with the Home Minister and the hon. Prime Minister, some time may be allotted in this House to discuss the matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen to me. Yesterday Shri Kishore Lal sought permission to raise the matter of death duty to liquor poisoning in Delhi. Later on, at 3 p.m. the hon. Home Minister made a statement on that subject. Since then, notice of adjournment motion and several call attention notices, notices under rule 377 on the subject had been received including the one from Mr. Kalyanasundaram. Since the matter deserves the attention of the House, I have decided to admit a call attention notice for tomorrow. In view of that Shri Kalyanasundaram who has given notice of call attention and adjournment motion may kindly not press his motion.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: I do not press it. Kindly listen to me. Call attention on such an important matter may not be adequate.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think that it is the best way of discussing it.