

1978 and 1979 with their approximate values are as under:—

| Commodity | 1978 (Value Rs. in lakhs) | 1979 |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------|
| Gold | 152 | 136 |
| Silver | 9 | 122 |
| Watches | 309 | 336 |
| Synthetic fabrics | 1019 | 1218 |
| Diamonds | 91 | 101 |
| Miscellaneous goods. | 1305 | 1850 |

(b) The prices of seized/confiscated goods for disposal are fixed after making market enquiries by a Committee consisting of two Assistant Collectors of Customs and Central Excise and a Gazette Officer-in-charge of sales. The assistance of trade Associations and other experts in the respective fields is also taken as and when considered necessary.

Delay in clearance of passengers at Airports

2292. SHRI BHIKHU RAM JAIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is abnormal delay in clearance of passengers at the airports in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the checking of dutiable goods takes unusually long time; what is the reasonable time assessed by the Customs authorities for searching items of the passengers; and

(c) the steps proposed for quicker clearance and increasing the number of counters for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDU-LAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Delay occurs due to inadequate space at the airports, and congestion at peak hours.

(b) With the revision of Baggage Rules resulting in substantial libera-

lisation and rationalisation of allowances admissible to various categories of passengers, and also as a result of a number of procedural changes effected since then, there has been considerable improvement in rate of clearance of passengers, and by and large all the passengers in a particular flight are cleared within half an hour, which can be considered as reasonable.

(c) Additional counters are being provided to the regulatory agencies for quicker clearance of passengers in the New Terminal Complexes under construction/proposed to be constructed.

राजस्थान में खनिज संसाधनों के लिए सर्वेक्षण

2293 श्री दीलत राम सारण : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या चुरु जिले के लखासार गांव में तथा बीकानेर एवं गंगानगर के साथ लगने वाले जिलों में पोटाश के अमूल्य निक्षेपों का पता चला है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यांरा क्या है और इन निक्षेपों के समुप्रयोजन की योजनाएँ क्या हैं ?

वाणिज्य तथा इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : (क) और (ख) भारतीय लखासर, खुदासर, गोसाईसर और कालू में लखासर, खुदासर, गोसाईसर और कालू में डिलिंग की थी। लखासर, गोसाईसर और कालू में हैलाइट (सॉडियम क्लोराईड) की मोटी परतें होने का पता चला है। हैलाइट खनिजीकरण के साथ पोटाशयुक्त पालीहैलाइट खनिज भी है। इन निक्षेपों की ठीक-ठीक आर्थिक क्षमता का निर्धारण करने के लिए आगे खोज कार्य किया जा रहा है।

Deposits of Nationalised Banks in Orissa

2294 SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-GRAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total deposits of Nationalised Banks in Orissa and