

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA):** (a) to (c) An estimate of Rs. 2.89 lakhs has been sanctioned to carry out a detailed technical survey. A provision of Rs. 10 lakhs has been made in the Sixth Plan for acquisition of land necessary for construction of a new runway at Mangalore airport suitable for Boeing 737 operations.

#### Vayudoot Service for Karnataka

7276. **SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to connect some places in Karnataka State by Vayudoot service recently introduced by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if reply to part (a) above be in negative, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA):** (a) to (c) The general question of extending feeder services by Vayudoot to regions other than the North-Eastern Region is under examination of the Government and as and when a decision is taken, the places in Karnataka, to be airlinked would be decided. It would be premature at this stage to indicate any time frame within which such feeder services will be operated in Karnataka.

#### Value of rupee

7277. **SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the value of rupee has been falling continuously;

(b) if so, the value of rupee during the last one year—month-wise; and

(c) the reasons for continuous fall?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN)** (a) and (b): The fall in the value of Rupee is synonymous with the rise in prices. A Statement showing month-wise value of the Rupee, measured as a reciprocal of the All India Con-

sumer Price Index for Industrial workers (1960—100), for the twelve months ended February 1981 (for which the latest data are available) is attached.

(c) The forces underlying the inflationary pressures are discussed in the Economic Survey, 1980-81 and include higher international prices of oil and oil products, upward adjustment in administered prices, shortfall in production of some essential commodities such as pulses and oilseeds due to drought of 1979-80 and excess liquidity in the system.

#### Statement

(In Paise)

March,	1980	26.81
April,	1980	26.67
May,	1980	26.18
June,	1980	25.91
July,	1980	25.38
August,	1980	25.19
September,	1980	24.88
October,	1980	24.63
November,	1980	24.33
December,	1980	24.51
January,	1981	24.33
February,	1981	23.92

Note: Measured as a reciprocal of the All-India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (1960=100).

#### Backlog of posts reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in State Bank of Hyderabad

7278. **SHRI R. R. Bhole:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is heavy backlog of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in all categories of posts in the State Bank of Hyderabad;

(b) if so, he details of the backlog in different categories, separately;

(c) the special steps taken by Government during the last one year to fill this backlog; and

(d) the reasons for not appointing a Liaison Officer and separate Cell for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees in the Bank to look after their grievances as provided under the rules?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b) The State Bank of Hyderabad has reported that the backlog of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various categories of posts as on 31-12-1980 is as follows:

	SC	ST
Officers	Nil	8
Clerks	76	106
Subordinate Staff	6	17

(c) The banks have been advised to fill special recruitment tests for filling such vacancies expeditiously. The State Bank of Hyderabad has reported that the Delhi and Madras Regional Recruitment Boards are already making arrangements for holding such special tests. Other Regional Recruitment Boards have also been advised to take similar action.

(d) According to the bank a senior officer of the Personnel Administration Department of the bank is already entrusted with the work of looking into the grievances of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes employees.

#### Records of smugglers, financiers and foreign exchange racketeers

7279. SHRI D. S. A. SIVAPRAKASAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been keeping records of known gangs of smugglers, financiers, Foreign Exchange Racketeers up to date; and

(b) if so, the names of such persons and other details belonging to Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir; it will not be in public interest to disclose the information sought for.

#### Seizure of goods by Customs Department, Madras

7280. SHRI D. S. A. SIVAPRAKASAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of seizure of goods imported in contravention of the Customs Act by sea, air and other routes in the year 1979-80 and 1980-81 were made by the Customs Department, Madras;

(b) the names and other details of the persons from whom seizures were made; and

(c) the action taken against these persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) The number of cases involving seizure of smuggled goods made by the Customs authorities at Madras during 1979, 1980 and 1981 (upto March, 1981) is given below:—

Year	Number of seizure cases
1979	2436
1980	1756
1981	431
(Upto March)	

(b) and (c) The number of persons from whom seizures were effected during the above period being quite large, the time and labour that will