

been drawn to a report in the 'Indian Express' on the 7th June, 1972 under the heading "Plan to channelise sneak Pound" ;

(b) whether any estimate has been made by Government as to the amount which comes to the country through illegal channels and consequential loss in foreign exchange being sustained by the country ;

(c) whether the Association of India expatriates in Britain has forwarded a scheme to Government under which the money would be transmitted to India only through legal channels if certain facilities are extended ;

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(e) whether a copy of the scheme would be laid on the Table of the House ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By the very nature of the problem it is difficult to arrive at any estimate of the loss sustained by the country on account of illegal transactions.

(c) No proposal of the type referred to in the press report has been received in the Finance Ministry.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Loss suffered by Indian Airlines due to Operation of HS-748 (AVRO) Aircraft

3517. SHRI P. K. DEO :  
SHRI FATESINGHRAO  
GAEKWAD :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been invited to a report in the 'Indian Express' dated the 8th June, 1972, under the caption "Heavy loss by Indian Airlines on AVRO" ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(c) the amount of losses sustained by the

Indian Airlines on HS-748 during the last two years and how these losses are likely to be made up ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It is correct that due to increasing direct and indirect costs of operation, the profitability of the HS-748 has been adversely affected. This aircraft is manufactured in India and it is in the over all national interest to make full use of it.

(c) The pattern of operations of Indian Airlines cannot be viewed only in the context of profitability, as many routes have to be operated as an essential service for the travelling public. The HS-748s are being used mainly on regional routes which usually incur a loss, irrespective of the type of aircraft.

Impact of Nationalisation of National Iranian Oil Company by Iran on the supply of Crude to India

3518. SHRI P. K. DEO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether supply of crude to India is likely to be affected in any way as a result of the nationalisation of the National Iranian Oil Company by Iran ;

(b) if so, to what extent ; and

(c) whether India is likely to save foreign exchange consequent upon the nationalisation of the Iranian Oil Company and if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) The National Iranian Oil Company is in the public sector in Iran. Therefore the question of its nationalisation does not arise.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Recommendations made by Central Excise Reorganisation Committee

3519. SHRI DALIP SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Excise Reorganisation Committee in its report had recom-