

for sending a delegation of Indian Tea Producers to East African countries; the proposal is under consideration of Government and no date has yet been fixed.

(c) During the visit of the Indian delegation to Sri Lanka in February, 1974, the prospects for joint marketing of packet teas containing selected teas of India and Sri Lanka were discussed.

(d) Government are not aware of any delegations from Sri Lanka scheduled to visit these countries.

Textile Pact between India and USA

5722. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-US talks on Textile Pact of 1970 have started;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for modifying the pact of 1970; and

(c) when a final decision in this regard is likely to be reached?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). Preliminary negotiations have already been held with the U.S.A. for modifying the present bilateral Agreement on textiles between the two sides. Further negotiations are expected to be held shortly.

Modifications to the present Agreement have become necessary mainly to bring the bilateral Agreement in conformity with the provisions of the new International Arrangement in textiles and to provide increased access for Indian cotton textiles in the U.S. Market.

Change in Attitude of EEC to Indian trade

5723. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Labour Government of U.K. is considering to renegotiate terms with the E.E.C.;

(b) whether there is a change in attitude of the new Government of U.K. in regard to E.E.C.;

(c) if so, how far this has been welcomed by India; and

(d) the extent to which change of attitude of E.E.C. will be beneficial to Indian trade?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (d). It has been reported that the Labour Government in U.K. is seeking renegotiations of the terms of U.K.'s membership of the E.E.C. The detailed terms and conditions of these renegotiations are not yet known. It is, therefore, not possible to assess their implications for India's trade.

Utilisation of credit from World Bank

5724. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of the credit sanctioned by the World Bank and the purpose for which it was sanctioned; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to fully utilize the credit?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) and (b). The aggregate of loans to India from World Bank since its inception is equivalent of Rs. 626.15 crores. In addition the International Development Association has provided credits to the extent of Rs. 1395 crores. The World Bank loans and IDA credits have been given for various purposes like development of Railways, Power Generation, Transmission, Agriculture, Irrigation, Water Supply, Urban Development and Industries. The loans and credits are being utilized more or less in accordance with the schedule of implementation of the projects. The amount of

World Bank loans utilized so far is Rs. 555 crores and of IDA credits is Rs. 750 crores.

Categorisation of persons by Air India to avail of chartered flights from India on concessional basis

Export of Beef and Live-Stock

5725. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI :
SHRI DEVINDER SINGH
GARCHA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to permit export of beef and live-stock; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) There is no proposal under Government's consideration to permit export of beef and cattle.

(b) Does not arise.

Submission of Tariff Commission Report on fixation of prices of Staple Cloth

5726. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tariff Commission has submitted its report on fixation of prices of staple cloth;

(b) if so, its main recommendations; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government on the recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

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

5727. SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has categorised persons to avail of chartered flights from India on concessional basis;

(b) if so, the broad features about these categories; and

(c) the basis or the rationale on which this categorization has been made?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (c). Air-India Charters Limited came into being for operation of charters at cheap fares as one of the measures to combat malpractices indulged in by certain foreign airlines.

The following categories of persons, who were flown by other carriers indulging in malpractices, are ordinarily eligible to travel by Air India charters:

(i) European residents of Indian ethnic origin;

(ii) Emigrants to UK/USA/Canada;

(iii) Students and missionaries.

Seizure of forged currency

5728. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of forged currency notes seized in various States and Union Territories during the financial year 1973-74;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this connection; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?