

the thing is that I am not aware as to who has invited the tender—whether it is the Municipal Corporation or the State Government or some other agency.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Municipal Corporation.

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:** How can I explain this?

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** The World Bank is involved in this.

अवकाश नहीं देय : ठीक है आप लिख दोजिये, आन और सवाल कर दोजिये ।

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** I have put the question. Let him make enquiries.

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:** If you kindly pass on the paper or the information to me, I will find out.

**SHRI R. R. BHOLE:** Will the hon. Minister explain as to why so much escalation in the cost of the project is there, because there is a likelihood of golmol there?

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:** I do not know what is the *golmal*, but I have got some figures as to how the cost has escalated.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Is it a cricket ball of football?

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE:** For instance, in the case of general inflation in the cost of living and especially in the cost of essential materials, the escalation is of the order of Rs. 103 crores. Then this project was re-designed and the subsequent stage i.e. **extensive re-design of the treatment plant component at Bhandup**, also accounts for Rs. 27 crores. Initial under-estimate of sewerage design which was updated later on, also accounts for Rs. 37 crores. The total comes to Rs. 167 crores.

### Avoidance of double taxation between India and Switzerland

\*291. **SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an agreement for avoidance of double taxation would lead to the promotion of joint ventures between India and Switzerland; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed in this regard and also for increasing trade between the two countries?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA):** (a) and (b). statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Generally an Agreement for Avoidance of Double Taxation with any country helps to stimulate the flow of capital and technology since it removes the tax obstacles that may inhibit such a flow between the two countries.

(b) Negotiations for conclusion of an Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation between India and Switzerland were started in 1976, but no Agreement could be arrived at. Recently both sides expressed willingness to resume these negotiations.

Switzerland is a relatively free market with no quantitative restrictions in any sector including textiles. To increase India's exports to that country the marketing efforts are being intensified. These include participation in fairs, visits of Indian business delegations and participations in suitable business seminars.

**श्रीमती माधुरी सिंह :** दोनों देशों के बीच एग्रीमेंट नहीं हुआ इसका क्या कारण है ?

**SHRI P. A. SANGMA:** The main point of disagreement related to the inclusion of an article on the exchange of information. On our side,

we thought that it was essential. But this was not agreed to. Therefore, the agreement could not be reached. As I said in the answer, now we have agreed to resume the talks on this matter.

**श्रीमती माधुरी सिंह :** दोनों देशों का ट्रेड बैलन्स क्या है ?

**SHRI P. A. SANGMA :** I can give the figures for the last two years. In 1980-81 our export was worth Rs. 110.50 crores and the import was of the order of Rs. 120.60 crores. So, the balance of trade was Rs. 10.10 crores. In 1981-82, our export was of the order of Rs. 116.55 crores and the import was Rs. 96.95 crores. So, the balance of trade was + Rs. 19.60 crores.

#### Improvement in Vijayawada airport

\*292 SHRIMATI VIDYA CHENNU-PATTI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the Vijayawada Airport and to introduce Boeing services between that airport and other cities in view of the fact that Vijayawada is a big commercial centre and also the centre for tobacco cultivation; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN):** (a) Various measures have been taken to improve the facilities at Vijayawada Airport. New departure holding area has been constructed. To provide facilities for aircraft operations the constructions of a new Control Tower-cum-Technical Block at a cost of Rs. 19.13 lakhs was undertaken. This project is nearing completion. Work relating to augmentation of water and electric supply to the airport has been completed.

The Indian Airlines does not consider it feasible to introduce Boeing service between Vijayawada airport and

other cities as the HS-748 capacity provided no daily service on the route Hyderabad/Vijayawada/Tirupati/Madras is sufficient to meet the present level of traffic on this route.

(b) Does not arise.

**श्रीमती विद्या चन्नुपति:** अभी मंत्री जी ने कहा कि विजयवाड़ा—एअरपोर्ट के लिए बोइंग सर्विस फिजीबल नहीं है। मैं यह पूछना चाहती हूँ कि एअर पोर्ट के रन-वे को पक्का करने के लिए सरकार कुछ प्रयत्न कर रही है या नहीं ?

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :** Sir, at the moment, we are not strengthening the run-way because it will cost about one crore of rupees and we think that the volume of traffic offering does not justify the operation of Boeing 737.

**श्रीमती विद्या चन्नुपति :** मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि विजयवाड़ा एअरपोर्ट पर न्यू कंट्रोल टावर—कम-टेक्निकल ब्लॉक का 19.13 लाख रुपये की लागत से निर्माण किया गया, इसके लिए मैं धन्यवाद देना चाहती हूँ। विजयवाड़ा तीन-चार डिस्ट्रिक्ट का बहुत बड़ा कामर्शियल सेंटर है और वहाँ आने के लिए गुंटूर से जहाँ पर कि टूबकों कम्पनी हैं, काफी लोग एअर से ट्रेवल करते हैं इसलिए बोइंग की अत्याधिक आवश्यकता है। दूसरी बात यह है कि आपने हैदराबाद, विजयवाड़ा, तिरुपति और मद्रास विमान मार्ग का टाइम भी चेंज कर दिया है। पहली फ्लाईट सुबह 6.40 बजे शुरू होती है, जो किसी के लिए भी कन्वीनियन्ट नहीं है। दिल्ली—हैदराबाद, मद्रास—हैदराबाद और बैंगलोर—हैदराबाद जब भी प्लेन से जाते हैं तो 8-9 बजे हैदराबाद पहुंचते हैं जो कि सुविधाजनक नहीं है। मैं यह पूछना चाहती हूँ कि आप टाइमिंग ठीक करने के लिए कुछ कर रहे हैं या नहीं ?