

The Beirut control tower was immediately contacted for runway check for evidence of tyre burst. The airport authorities confirmed that there was evidence of multiple tyre burst judging from the amount of tyre fragments on the runway. The aircraft proceeded straight to Bombay (instead of Delhi) and made a normal landing. On investigation, it was found that the aircraft, had suffered minor damage to the fibreglass panel just behind the right hand body gear.

In the second instance, after the aircraft took-off from Kuwait on 15th July 1974 tyre pieces were found on the runway and the pilot was informed. The aircraft landed at Bombay normally. On investigation, the right tyre of the left hand body gear was found damaged due to tread peeling off with very minor damage to the aircraft. Safety was not imperilled in either case.

(c) Air India have set up a committee to look into various problems relating to tyre failures and make recommendations to minimise such occurrences.

#### **Cash Reserve Ratio of Commercial Banks**

\*299. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports that commercial banks evade penalty for fall in their cash reserve ratio; and

(b) if so, the action taken against such banks?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India have reported that penal interest has been recovered by them in each case of default in the maintenance of statutory minimum deposit, wherever they were satisfied that the defaulting bank

had no sufficient reasons for its failure to maintain the stipulated cash reserve.

#### **Decline in Export of certain items**

\*300. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the items, export of which has fallen in 1972-73 and 1973-74;

(b) the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to promote the export of those items?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) During 1972-73 the exports of tea, jute manufactures, sugar and spices were lower as compared to 1971-72. During the first 11 months of 1973-74, the latest period for which the data is available, exports of tea, jute manufactures, East India Hides and skins, cotton yarn and mica were smaller as compared with the corresponding period of 1972-73.

(b) and (c). The main reason for the decline in the exports of jute manufactures were re-emergence of Bangla Desh as a supplier in the world market and increased competitions from synthetic products. Exports of tea were smaller on account of stiffer competition mainly from East Africa. While hides and skins exports were smaller as a result of the Government policy to export larger finished leather and leather goods from the country, the decline in cotton yarn exports was due to the steps taken for maintaining adequate supply for the domestic markets.

It is the Government's constant endeavour to enlarge the export of all items which have the necessary export potential. For this purpose, a number of steps have been taken which include stopping up of export production and enlarging the production base