

Permission to Fly in the Cockpit

2899. SHRI R.P. GOENKA:

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Minister flies above the law" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated the 24th September, 2001 highlighting violation of safety procedures by allowing passengers into the cockpit in the national carriers;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether a fresh review of the safety precautions has been undertaken recently; and

(d) if so, the details of the revised instructions issued, if any?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines has not received any report regarding travel of any unauthorized person in the Cockpit in its flights in violation of guidelines laid-down in para 6.14 of the Operations Manual duly approved by DGCA. Air India has also not received any report of the stated violation of DGCA guidelines.

(c) and (d) The instructions on the subject already exist and all airlines are required to adhere to.

Foreign Trade Position

†2900. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[18 December, 2001] **RAJYA SABHA**

(a) whether foreign trade of the country has increased during the 90s;

(b) if so, the percentage of Indian Foreign Trade as compared to total foreign trade of the World in first year, 1990-91 in the 90s; and

(c) the percentage of Indian Foreign Trade as compared to the total foreign trade of the World in the last year *i.e.* 1999-2000 during the 90's?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI):

(a) Yes, Sir. As per the provisional data available from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI and S), Calcutta, India's exports have increased to US \$ 44.56 billion during 2000-01 from US \$ 18.14 billion during 1990-91. India's export, in dollar terms, registered a growth of 21% during 2000-01 over the last year.

(b) and (c) The percentage share of India's merchandise exports in world merchandise exports which was 0.5% in 1990 increased to 0.67% in 2000 as per the latest WTO Report.

Grants Released to EPCs

2901. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:
SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Ministry's decision of February, 1992 grants under Marketing Development Assistance Scheme to EPCs more than 10 years old, were to be discontinued;