

(c) The security of the Prime Minister is the concern of the State Governments & UT Administrations within whose jurisdiction the Prime Minister happens to be. It is difficult to quantify the expenditures.

Sugar imported by the STC

*271. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar imported during the last three years and the amount in foreign exchange paid against each contract by the State Trading Corporation;

(b) the cost of handling charges (with break up) per tonne against each contract

charged by the State Trading Corporation during the above period;

(c) the amount paid to the Indian Sugar Industry Export Corporation for handling imported sugar (loading/unloading) by the State Trading Corporation against each contract with percentage;

(d) the transit losses incurred by the State Trading Corporation with quantity against each contract with percentage; and

(e) the complaints of malpractices received against the officials of the State Trading Corporation and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) The quantity of sugar imported by STC during the last three financial years is given below:—

| Financial Year | Qty. (lakh MT) | CIF Value (Rs. crores) | Weighted average CIF price (Rs./MT) |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1984-85 | 4.96 | 113.62 | 2291 |
| 1985-86 | 20.33 | 449.29 | 2210 |
| 1986-87 | 7.95 | 212.00 | 2667 |

This sugar was purchased at prevailing international market prices and foreign exchange against each contract was paid accordingly.

(b) Under the existing practice, service charges and over-heads are charged

by STC on annual basis on the quantity sold in each year in addition to port handling charges, godown rent, godown insurance etc. On this basis, STC's service charges and overheads per metric tonne are given below:—

| Financial Year | STC's service charges (Rs. /MT) | STC's overheads (Rs./MT) |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1984-85 | 11.45 | 25.65 |
| 1985-86 | 11.05 | 30.02 |
| 1986-87 (Prov.) | 13.00 | 40.00 |

(c) The handling and clearing work for sugar imported by STC is done through Indian Sugar and General Industry Export Import Corporation Limited (ISIEC). In addition to the actual handling, clearing expenses, and port charges etc. an-

nual overheads of ISIEC are also met. The amount paid to ISIEC as handling, clearing, port charges etc. per tonne for its overheads during the last three years is given below:—

| Financial Year | Handling, clearing port charges, overheads etc. (Rs./MT) |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1984-85 | 131.18 |
| 1985-86 | 119.86 |
| 1986-87 (Provisional) | 140.00 |

(d) The sugar imported by STC is delivered to the Food Corporation of India/State Governments on ex-jetty and ex-STC's godowns, as per the instructions

of the Government from time to time. The marine, transit, handling and storage shortages during the last three years are given below:—

| Financial Year | Total quantity imported (lakh/MT) | Shortages | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| | | Qty. (MT) | %Loss |
| 1984-85 | 4.96 | 1342 | 0.27 |
| 1985-86 | 20.33 | 6664 | 0.33 |

The figures for the financial year 1986-87 are under compilation.

The consignments of sugar imported are covered against all risks from warehouse of the seller to STC's warehouse at discharge port in India. Further, stocks of sugar are also insured. As such, almost entire shortages are recoverable from the insurers.

(e) Complaints of malpractices received against officials of State Trading Corporation are enquired into and follow-up action is taken based on the findings of the enquiry.

Introduction of Vayudoot Flights over Himalayas in order to boost Tourism

*272. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry in collaboration with Vayudoot have arranged flights over the Himalayas for the promotion of tourism;

(b) if so, what is the response to this new venture;