Storage tank at Marmagoa Port in . Goa for the Export of Molasses

2505. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHA-RADWAJ. Will the Minister of COM-MERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a storage tank for the export of Molasses was installed at the Marmagoa Port at Goa after getting approval from his Ministry;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that this installation was financed by the State Trading Corporation (STC);
- (c) whether it i_S also a fact that after the installation of the storage tank the STC did not utilise it and i_S diverting the ship_S to other ports;
- (d) whether it $i_{\rm S}$ also a fact that instead of utilising the present facility, another storage tank has been financed by the State Trading Corporation t_0 be installed at the same place; and
- (e) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) M/s. Himalayan Exporters sought financial assistance from STC for construction of tank installation at Marmagoa Port for export of Molasses and the STC advanced a loan of Rs. 2,96.876/- on 19.12.67.

- (c) The proposal to utilise the tank for Alcohol/Molasses exports was examined by a Committee of Group Executives appointed by the STC and their reports confirmed that the tank was unfit for storage due to long idling.
- (d) No, Sir. STC's handling agents have their own tank storage facility at Goa for export of Molasses which is being utilised, when required.
 - (e) Does not arise.

Construction of an Airport at Aizawal (Mizoram)

2506. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an air-strip was constructed near Aizawal (Mizoram) which remained operative for some time only and has since become non-operative; if so, what are the reasons therfor;
- (b) whether Government propose to construct an airport at Aizawal to link it with other State Capitals by Vayudoot; and
- (c) if so, by when the airport is likely to be built?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) No new airstrip was constructed at Aizawal. An Indian Air Force airfield at Turial was taken over by the Civil Aviation Department and prepared for Vayudoot operations. A Vapudoot service from Calcutta was started which was suspended with effect from May 1, 1984 for resurfacing of the runway which required repairs. The service will be resumed after repairs.

- (b) As an airport already exists at Turial, there is presently no proposal under consideration to construct a new airport
 - (c) Does not arise.

Closure of Birla Cotton Mill . . (Weaving Section) Delhi

2507. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Birla Cotton Mills (Weaving Section), Delhi is closed since December, 1982;