

Streamlining of procedure at Airports

947. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government have taken to remove cumbersome and time consuming procedure at the airports to boost up tourist arrivals; and

(b) whether Government propose to do away with health check as a first step in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) The customs, health and immigration checks through which the tourists have to undergo are in accordance with national laws and regulations. However, Government have taken following steps to make these checks less time consuming:—

- (i) The checks introduced by Protectorate of Emigrants have been discontinued.
- (ii) The health checks are now limited to persons coming from yellow fever endemic areas.
- (iii) The concept of walk through channel (Green Channel) has been introduced to eliminate inconvenience to passenger who do not have dutiable goods. In most cases customs duty is levied on the basis of the oral declaration of the passengers and physical checking of the baggage has been substantially reduced.
- (iv) Separate immigration counters for (a) Indian citizens; (b) Common-wealth citizens; and (c) Citizens from other countries, have been arranged

at Bombay and Delhi for rapid clearance.

(v) At Delhi Airport, additional staff has been sanctioned and posted after assessment by Staff Inspection Unit.

(b) No, Sir. There is no proposal to do away with the health check.

Strike Notices in Central Public Undertakings

948. SMT. MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that workers' unions in various Central Public Undertakings have given notices of strike and have started agitation to press their demands;

(b) if so, what are the major demands of the workers; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to avert the strikes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) to (c) There are more than 200 public sector undertakings and most of them have more than one union. At any point of time, there may be some unresolved issues between the managements and the workers unions—both recognised as well as unrecognised, and there could be usual notices of strike given by such unions for matters which fall within the jurisdiction of managements to settle them. Discussions with some Trade Union leaders were held by the Union Finance Minister to understand their view-point on the question of the need for early finalisation of the wage agreements between the managements and workers of Public Enterprises and other connected matters. No written memorandum was submitted by the Trade Union leaders. A suggestion for setting up of a Tripartite Committee to go into the question of the DA formula

received from them is receiving attention of Government.

State Agricultural Ministers' Conference

@949. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :
SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA :

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

(a) whether a two-day State Agriculture Ministers' Conference was held in New Delhi from December 19, 1982; and

(b) if so, the details of the deliberations that took place and the conclusions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A two-day State Agriculture Ministers' Conference was held on 18th and 19th December, 1982.

(b) It was unanimously agreed that export of agricultural commodities on a continuous and sustained basis would be to the farmers' advantage. Farm incomes can be substantially increased by promoting exports of agricultural commodities through increased production and productivity. Increased production and productivity would make available genuine surpluses for export. There was need to progress from subsistence agriculture to commercial agriculture and export agriculture. Each State Government, on the basis of soil, climatic conditions and irrigation facilities available, would identify for itself the commodities in which it can promote exports. It was also unanimously agreed to establish an export cell at

@Previously Unstarred Question 565 transferred from the 25th February, 1983.

the State level to deal with all matters relating to promotion of exports of agricultural commodities. The Ministry of Commerce, through its agencies, would provide marketing intelligence data, etc.

Export of Sugar to China

950. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are examining the prospects of a long-term bilateral sugar agreement between India and the People's Republic of China;

(b) if so, what are the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) at what stage it stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Trust

951. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR :
SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to Starred Question 29 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th November, 1981 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an application for the grant of exemption for the payment of Income Tax to a trust under Section (10 23C)(iv) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, is decided by the Board of Direct Taxes after a study of activities and accounts pertaining to a year of a society;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the grant of exemption to the Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Trust before the expiry of the stipulated period; and