

The figures of production for the last four years are:

Year	Production (M. Kgs.)
1977	556.26
1978	571.33
1979	547.60
1980	574.87

Development of Vishakhapatnam Airport

*435. SHRI KRISHNA MOHAN BHAMIDIPATI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the development of Vishakhapatnam Airport for handling Boeing Flights?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): No, Sir.

Withdrawal of Customs cases against Galadhari Brothers

†*436. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD
MATHUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under Government's instructions, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligences has withdrawn all the long pending cases involving the three Galadhari Brothers of Dubai—M/s. Abdul Latif Galadhari, Abdul Wahab Galadhari and Abdul Rahim Galadhari under COFEPOSA and other laws for smuggling of gold and other goods between Dubai and India;

†Previously Starred Question 236, transferred from the 8th December, 1981.

(b) what were the charges against them and on what considerations the cases were withdrawn and their entry into India permitted, and whether any one of them had met a Union Cabinet Minister prior to the withdrawal of cases; and

(c) whether they have made proposals to invest money in India; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b) In July, 1977, the names of M/s. Abdul Latif Galadhari, Abdul Wahab Galadhari and Abdul Rahim Galadhari were removed from a list of suspects maintained by the Ministry of External Affairs. The name of Abdul Wahab Galadhari was also removed from the Suspect Index of the Ministry of Home Affairs in September, 1977. They were being prosecuted in the Bombay Courts in four smuggling cases relating to the years 1964, 1969 and 1970. No orders of detention under the COFEPOSA Act, 1974, had been issued in respect of these persons. In August, 1979, a note for the Political Affairs Committee of the Cabinet was prepared by the Ministry of External Affairs recommending withdrawal of cases pending against the Galadhari brothers on the ground that it would facilitate better political and economic relations with the U.A.E. A decision for withdrawal of cases was finally taken on the basis of a similar recommendation from the Ministry of External Affairs in April, 1981.

In the absence of specific details, it is difficult to ascertain whether any of the Galadhari brothers had met any Cabinet Minister prior to the withdrawal of cases.

(c) No concrete proposal has been received from the Galadhari brothers seeking approval for investments in India.