

(c) whether negotiations for the replacement of these engines are also going on simultaneously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Inspection of the relevant engine parts fitted in Boeing-737 aircraft is being carried out by Indian Airlines in a phased manner.

(c) There is no proposal for replacement of the engines and the question of negotiations in this regard does not arise.

Bank loan to weaker section and unemployed

1347. SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what concrete and positive steps Government have taken to ensure effective implementation of the bank loan policy to weaker sections and employed;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to set up advisory committees at lower levels to see that the loans do really reach the needy; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the steps taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MANGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The progress of implementation of the policy of enlarging the flow of bank credit to the priority sectors, particularly to the beneficiaries of the 20-Point Programme and other weaker sections of the community is kept under watch by the Reserve Bank and the Government with regular reviews by the Boards of Directors of the public sector banks and at other forums like the District Consultative Committees, State-level Coordination Committees etc. and through periodical meetings of the chief executives of the banks with the Reserve Bank and the Government.

(b) and (c). The measures necessary for making the institutional framework at the lower level effective in ensuring that the credit requirements of the weaker sections are adequately met in accordance with the Government's policy, are being explored.

Loss suffered by the S.T.C.

1348. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation has suffered a great loss in its export and import transactions during the years 1977-78 and 1978-79;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is a marked improvement during the current financial year;

(d) if so, what are the factors responsible for its improvement;

(e) what steps are being taken to further improve the position;

(f) whether some officials have been held responsible for the above losses; and

(g) if so, what action has been taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) In the over-all export and import transactions STC did not suffer any losses during these two years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The profit before tax during the current financial year 1980-81 is estimated at Rs. 47 crores.

(d) and (e) Increase in turn-over both in exports and imports is the major factor responsible for the improvement. Steps are being taken to accomplish the enhanced export targets.

(f) and (g) Do not arise