

Country	1977-78		1978-79	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Oman	120.1	11.86	231.6	19.55
Qatar	206.0	18.17	156.5	13.83
Saudi Arabia	34.9	3.05	127.0	11.80
Singapore	84.7	3.13	182.2	4.91
U.K.	137.3	10.14	211.0	21.17
Others	143.3	11.08	139.9	6.96
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3369.7</b>	<b>309.62</b>		<b>71.93</b>

#### Development of Bhowara Airport

873. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no steps have been taken upto now for the development of the Bhowara airport near Madhubani in Bihar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that not even a watchman is working there for looking after the airport; and

(c) if the answers to part (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons therefor and what further steps are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c) The Bhowara aerodrome belongs to Government of Bihar. The Civil Aviation Department has not carried out any development of the aerodrome, as neither Indian Airlines nor any non-scheduled airlines has asked for its development.

#### Nationalised banks in Sikkim

874. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING:  
SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN:  
SHRI ALECSANDER WARJRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the only Nationalised Bank, namely, the State Bank of India at Gangtok, Sikkim, is overcrowded and cannot cater adequately to the banking needs of the local people; and

(b) if s'o, what is Government's proposed developmental programme to increase the number of Nationalised Banks in the State of Sikkim and what steps are being taken to cope with the work in the existing bank?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b) A recent study made by the Reserve Bank of India has revealed the need for increasing banking facilities at Gangtok, keeping in view the growing banking needs of the town and its potential for banking development. Proposals for strengthening the existing branch of the State Bank of India through the opening of an extension counter and creation of an

Agricultural Banking Division and opening of one more branch of a nationalised bank are under the consideration of the Reserve Bank of India, in consultation with the State Government. Proposals to improve the organisational capabilities of the State Bank of Sikkim are also being considered by the Reserve Bank of India.

**Expenditure incurred on the Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant**

875. SHRI V. B. RAJU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure which has been incurred on the Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant up to the end of March^ 1980-,

(b) whether the detailed project Report has been prepared; and

(c) what is the construction schedule and by when the plant is scheduled to go into production?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Rs. 18.42. crores.

(b) A comprehensive, revised Detailed Project Report is under preparation and is expected to be available within 2 months.

(c) The detailed schedule of construction will be finalised after approval of the revised DPR. The intention is to commission the first stage of the Plant for a liquid steel capacity of 1.625 million tonnes in 4 years from the start of construction work and the second stage within 2 years thereafter.

**Inspections carried out by the officers Of India« Bureau of Mines of mines in private sector**

876. SHRI KALYAN ROY;  
SHRIMATI PRATIMA BOSE;  
SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether inspections were carried out by the officers of the Indian

Bureau -of Mines of mines in the private sector units in Barajamda and Bellary-Hospet sectors during 1978, 1979 and 1980;

(b) if so, what are the names of mines which were inspected and what violations were detected by them in the mines;

(c) what specific action has been taken by Government against these mine owners; and

(d) what are the results of such actions?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix CXIV Annexure No. 78].

(c) and (d) The violations and irregularities detected during inspections have been pointed out to the mine owners. Violations have been rectified in 92 cases during the period. For continued violations show cause notices have been issued in 10 cases and prosecutions have been launched in 17 cases. Of these, convictions have been secured in 10 cases and 7 cases are still pending. One case has been compounded by the defaulter after paying the necessary compounding fees.

**Special leave petition filed by Enforcement Directorate in connection with foreign exchange racket by the Birlas**

877. SHRIMATI PRATIMA BOSE:  
SHRI KALYAN ROY-SHRI  
BHOLA PRASAD: I

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Un-starred Question 893 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th March, 198» and state:

(a) what is the position of the Special Leave petition which the Enforcement Directorate have filed before the Supreme Court in relation to