

foreign exchange likely to be earned as a result is computed at Rs. 270 crores.

Non-utilisation of radar facilities at Nangloi

*291. SHRIMATI SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an air route surveillance radar, a vital navigational aid for aircrafts, has remained idle since its installation in March, 1974 at Nangloi near Delhi;

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

(c) what steps Government propose to take to utilise the equipment effectively?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (c) No, Sir. After installation and test of the Air Route Surveillance Radar at Nangloi (Delhi), it was declared operational on 21-3-74. At the beginning, the facility was given procedural monitoring till the middle of June, 1974 when it was put into regular 24 hours operation. During this time, maintenance personnel as well as Air Traffic Control Officers were trained on the operation of this sophisticated equipment. After initial operation, the air-conditioning unit went out of order, off and on, and the Air Route Surveillance Radar facility had to be withdrawn by the end of August, 1974 to avoid damage to the equipment.

The question of rectifying the defect in the air-conditioning equipment was taken up with the concerned firm through Director General of Supplies and Disposals, who directed the firm to provide a matching condenser for

improving the functioning of the air-conditioning equipment. However, the firm after a protracted correspondence supplied the matching condenser and the air-conditioning unit has been made serviceable from October, 1977. To improve the functioning of the Air-conditioner, an additional condenser will be provided and the Air Route Surveillance Radar will be made operational by December, 1977.

National Credit Council

*292. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to revive the National Credit Council and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government at present to set up a National Credit Council.

(b) Does not arise.

Conference of India's trade representatives in Prague

*293. SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHURY:

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA:

SHRI HIMMAT SINH:

DR. V. B. SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of India's trade representatives in East Europe was held at Prague in the last week of October this year.

(b) if so, what are the problems discussed and what conclusions were arrived at; and

(c) whether the export of non-traditional goods to the East European Countries is likely to increase as a result of the decisions taken at the Conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The meeting reviewed the present pattern of trade with the East European countries and considered means to balance the two-way trade, the role and functions of the export promotion offices located in East Europe, and promotional measures necessary to promote our exports to East Europe.

(c) There is good scope for export of non-traditional goods to East European countries, but the main problem in our trade with these countries is balancing the trade which is generally in our favour. Our import requirements from these countries have come down and therefore export prospects are also limited. The conference has considered this aspect and has suggested several measures to expand the exports of non-traditional items.

Impact of F.E.R.A. on foreign investments in India

*294. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made by Government regarding the impact of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act on foreign investments in India; and

(b) if so, what are the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b) No study has been made of the impact of F.E.R.A. on foreign investments in

India. The F.E.R.A. regulations relating to dilution of foreign equity apply only to foreign companies in business as on 1-1-1974. But so far as new foreign investment is concerned, it is regulated by the investment/industrial policy and is permitted on a selective basis in high technology areas or in export oriented ventures. Government's assessment is that the provisions of F.E.R.A. have not tended to inhibit fresh foreign investment in India.

Raid at the office premises of M/s. Baroda Rayons Ltd., Bombay

*295. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:
SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income-tax authorities, during a search conducted in April, 1976, seized certain papers from the office premises of M/s. Baroda Rayons Limited, Bombay, showing donations made by businessmen and industrialists to the then ruling party at the Centre; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) and (b) During the course of search and seizure operations in April, 1976 in the case of M/s. Baroda Rayon Corporation Ltd., certain papers reported to show donations for the then ruling party at the Centre were seized. This matter is before the Shah Commission of Inquiry.

बैंकिंग व्यवस्था को सुधारने के लिये कदम

*296. श्री सोताराम केसरी :

श्री देवेन्द्र नाथ द्विवेदी :

श्री भैरव चन्द्र महन्ती :

श्री भीष्म नारायण सिंह :