

(i) Notification No. 48/77-Cus., dated the 9th April, 1977, under sub-section (2) of section 8 read with sub-section(3) of section 7 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

(ii) Notification No. 49/77-Cus., dated the 9th April, 1977, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

(iii) Notification Nos. 53/77—CE to 56/77-CE, dated the 9th April, 1977, under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944.

(iv) Notification No. 1/77-DBK., dated the 9th April, 1977, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 and section 38 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-250/77 for (i) to (iv)].

REFERENCE STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION ON THE DAKOTA CRASH

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA (Orissa): Sir, I would like to know as to what happened about the statement to be made by the Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation on the Dakota crash? It was stated that he would make a statement as soon as he collects the information. I suppose that five days are enough for collecting the information. There is no mention about it.

SHRI RANBIR SINGH (Haryana): Today is the last day of this Session.

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : निश्चित तारीख तो बताई नहीं गई थी। क्योंकि जानकारी अभी तक उपलब्ध नहीं हुई है इसलिये मैं नहीं दे सकता।

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Delay in the announcement of procurement price of wheat

DR. Z. A. AHMAD (Uttar Pradesh): Sir I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation to the wide-spread anxiety among the farmers due to the delay in the announcement by the Government regarding the procurement price of wheat and other rabi crops.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PARKASH SINGH BADAL): Sir, the price and procurement policy for Rabi grains is usually announced during the later half of March before the commencement of the rabi marketing season. As Hon'ble Members are aware, it was not possible this year to do so on account of the General Elections and the formation of the new Government only at the end of March. Government have taken all possible steps to expedite a decision regarding the rabi policy. Discussions have already been held on 2nd and 3rd April, 1977 with the Chief Ministers/Food Ministers of the States on the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission regarding the price and procurement policy for rabi cereals for marketing season 1977-78. A meeting of the concerned Committee of Union Cabinet is being held this evening to decide this matter and the policy will be announced as soon as a decision is taken.

Meanwhile, in view of the commitment of the Government to ensure that the farmers do not suffer due to fall in prices, instructions were issued as early as on 14th March, 1977 to all State Government/Union Territory Administrations as well as the Food Corporation of India to make proper arrangements for providing price support to the producers for wheat and that till the decision of Government on the price and procurement policy