

Installation of indigenous equipment at international airports in India

442. SHRI SHRI KANT VERMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the approach lights and the high intensity runway edge light fixtures developed and produced in India are being installed at the international airports of Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta; and

(b) what is the amount of expenditure to be incurred on these installations and what is the amount of foreign exchange likely to be saved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The estimated cost of providing high intensity runway edge light installations and approach lighting system at one end of the main runways at Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta airports would be Rs. 55.50 lakhs. Foreign exchange savings are likely to be Rs 5.63 lakhs.

Export of rubber by growers

443. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala State Co-operative Rubber Marketing Federation has requested the Central Government to allow the growers to export rubber directly; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b) The Rubber Marketing Federation had *inter-alia* requested Government to allow them to export

natural rubber directly and that when STC exports rubber, the profit on such exports should be passed on to the producers by the STC after taking reasonable commission.

Government allowed rubber growers to export 3,000 tonnes of natural rubber through STC, who would collect a nominal service charge. Since they could export only limited quantities of natural rubber, STC was also allowed to export on their own besides whatever quantity is permitted for export by the growers within the overall figure of 3,000 tonnes.

Bank loans for financing housing schemes for poorer sections

444. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: DR. Z. A. AHMAD:

Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has given certain guidelines to commercial banks for financing housing schemes for the poorer sections of the society; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUHKERJEE): (a) and (b) With a view to involving banks for providing finance for housing schemes for the poorer sections of the society, Reserve Bank of India have, in the last week of June this year, issued to all scheduled commercial bank guidelines, details of which are set out in the statement.

Statement

Details of guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India to all scheduled commercial banks regarding provision of finance for housing schemes for the weaker sections of the community.