

Dry Port for Delhi

126. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the progress so far made with regard to the scheme for setting up of a Dry Port in Delhi?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): The proposal is under active consideration of Government and a decision will be taken soon.

Air-Service Agreement with Bangladesh

127. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Air Service agreement has recently been signed with Bangladesh, to enable the two countries to operate air services to and through each other's territory; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement and the number of air-services operating under the agreement at present?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) As a result of inter-governmental consultations held in New Delhi from June 26—July 3, 1974, a draft air services agreement was initialled which will now be submitted to the respective governments for approval and signature.

(b) According to the provisions of the draft agreement Air India and Indian Airlines shall have the right to operate up to 30 services a week to Dacca and Chittagong. Of these, two can be operated by Air India through Dacca to points beyond. Similarly, Bangladesh Biman shall have the right to operate 30 services per week, 28 to Calcutta and two through Bombay to points beyond.

At present, Air India is operating two weekly services between India and Dacca with Boeing 707. Indian Airlines is operating a daily flight between Calcutta and Dacca with Boeing 737 aircraft. Bangla-

desh Biman is operating 21 services in all per week from Chittagong and Dacca to Calcutta.

Import of offset printing machine and material from Czechoslovakia

128. SHRI DEVENDRA NATH DWIVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money allotted for the import quota of offset printing machines and materials from Czechoslovakia;

(b) whether the entire import license for offset printing machines is held by a single business concern; if so, the name of the said business concern;

(c) whether this firm misused its license by consuming its Stock and Sell license to the fullest extent while under utilising its license for the import of machinery; and

(d) what are the comparative figures for import by this business firm in the categories (i) Machinery (ii) Stock and Sell (spares and raw materials such as offset printing plates)?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) In the Trade Plans entered into with Czechoslovakia, for the import of printing and allied machinery including offset printing presses, there was a provision of Rs. 39.90 lakhs and Rs. 45 lakhs respectively. There is no separate allocation as such earmarked for the import of offset printing machines-

(b) licences for the import of offset presses for stock and sale from Czechoslovakia were issued in favour of Project and Equipment Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi with letter of authority in the name of their accredited agents appointed by the Czechoslovakian suppliers, M/s. Mahabeer and Co. Pvt. Ltd., Delhi.

(c) No complaint has come to the notice of Government.

(d) No statistics of Import Licence-holder wise are maintained.