

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) On the basis of the existing fleet, 95 pilots are surplus to the requirement of Indian Airlines. The Corporation, however, does not propose to retrench any of these. They are expected to be adjusted against their future expansion programme.

**MMTC contract for urea and fertilizers**

\*291. DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD:

SHRI BIPINPAL DAS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries with which Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation have concluded agreements so far during

the year 1974 for the import of urea, other fertilizer components and fertilizers; and

(b) the details in terms of quantity and value of the commodities to be imported according to these agreements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) M.M.T.C. has concluded agreements for import of fertilizers with German Democratic Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republic, Bulgaria, Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea and Poland so far during the year 1974.

(b) A statement showing the details is laid on the Table of the House. The total value of contracts concluded so far is Rs. 130 crores.

**Statement**

Serial No.	Country	Commodity	Quantity (M/T.)
1	German Democratic Republic	Muriate of potash	2,00,000
2	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	(i) Urea	2,00,000
		(ii) Ammonium Sulphate	75,000
		(iii) Muriate of Potash	50,000
3	Bulgaria	Urea	46,000
4	Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea	Urea	20,000
5	Poland	(i) Urea	1,80,000
		(ii) Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	35,000

P. S.—Contracts with Rumania and Hungary are yet to be concluded. The matter is being pursued closely with them.

**Tariff on rubber products**

\*292. SHRI B. S. SHEKHAWAT:

SHRI O. P. TYAGI:

SHRI D. K. PATEL:

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

DR. RAMKIRPAL SINHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tariff No. T.I. 16A(4) covers the item V-belt;

(b) whether this Tariff covers such rubber products as are produced by cottage

industries which do not have vulcanising plants and therefore cannot treat rubber with sulphur at high temperatures;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the absence of a specific clarification in this regard cottage industries producing V-belts by binding rubber and canvass with hand, are being required to pay duty at the rate of 11 per cent, the rate that is being charged from big industries like Dunlop and Good-year; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to protect the cottage industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The correct rate of excise duty leviable on V-belts is 20% advalorem, irrespective of the sector of the industry by which it is manufactured. In addition auxiliary excise duty at the rate of 20% of the basic duty is also leviable.

(d) The representations made by the trade are under consideration.

#### U.N. Development Scheme

\*293. SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN:

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI:

SHRI K. B. CHETTRI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State in the North Eastern Region were not allotted any development scheme under the U.N. projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The United Nations Development Programme (U.N.D.P.) renders its assistance to developing countries on the basis of the "Country Programme" proposed by each recipient country. India's "Country Programme" was approved by the UNDP Governing Council in June 1972 for an Indicative Planning Figure of \$50 million and for the five-year period 1972-76. Our Country Programme had been formulated in close consultation with the Planning Commission and the various Ministries, who were required to take into account the needs of the State Governments and Union Territories while proposing schemes for inclusion in the Country Programme. The State Governments and Union Territories were also advised to furnish to the concerned Ministries their proposals for UNDP assistance. No developmental scheme relating to any State in the North Eastern Region was, however, sponsored for inclusion in the Country Programme.

#### Amendment of Essential Commodities Act.

294. SHRI D. P. SINGH:

SHRI KAMALNATH JHA:

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN:

DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government had discussions with the State Governments regarding proposed amendments of the Essential Commodities Act;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are difference between various Departments of the Government of India on the subject; and

(c) if so, what are the main points of difference and by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) to (c) The State Governments and the Union Ministries concerned were consulted on various proposals for the amendments to the Essential Commodities Act. There are no differences in the approach to the proposed amendments.

होशंगाबाद में करेंसी कागज तैयार करने

वाले कारखाने से कागज की चोरी

\*295. श्री वीरेन्द्र कुमार सखलेचा : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या होशंगाबाद (मध्य प्रदेश) में करेंसी कागज तैयार करने वाले कारखाने से कागज की चोरी की घटना के संबंध में विभागीय जांच पूरी हो गई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त जांच के फलस्वरूप क्या क्या तथ्य प्रकाश में आये हैं ?

†[Theft of paper from currency paper manufacturing factory at Hoshangabad]

\*295. SHRI V. K. SAKHLECHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

†[ ] English translation.