

(b) if so, the nature of the discussions held with them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Mission held discussions with various Ministries and Departments, public and private Organisations etc. on the possibilities of increasing the trade and industrial and economic cooperation between India and Austria.

Income-tax arrears against M/s Punj and Sons Pvt. Limited, New Delhi

1016. SHRI N. G. GORAY :
SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that arrears of income-tax are lying against M/s Punj and Sons Private Limited, New Delhi, a firm which is engaged in the manufacture of air-conditioners;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to recover the arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) There is no assessee in the name of M/s Punj and Sons Private Limited, New Delhi. However, there is an assessee in the name of Punj Sons (P) Ltd., New Delhi, but this concern is neither engaged in the manufacture of air-conditioners nor any arrears of income-tax are outstanding against it. However, it has been ascertained that there is a company under the same group and it is this company which is engaged in the manufacture of air-conditioners. However, against this Company also no arrears of tax are outstanding at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Transfers of officers of I.F.C.I.

1017. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR :
SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR :
SHRI J. P. MATHUR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently advised all their Departments, Attached Offices, Public Sector Undertakings including the Industrial Finance Corporation of India to keep to the minimum the T. A. Bills and avoid routine transfers as austerity measures;

(b) whether I.F.C.I., New Delhi has in February, 1974 issued orders for the transfers of 14 officers from its head office in New Delhi to its branches in Bombay, Madras and Calcutta and vice versa;

(c) what are the estimated initial recurring expenditure involved in these transfers; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to avoid unnecessary expenditure on transfers in view of the present economic situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) to (d) Government, in August 1973, had advised, *inter alia* the public financial institutions, including the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, regarding measures for curtailment in expenditure, during the financial year 1973-74. Amongst other things, public institutions were advised not to effect rotational transfer of officials in various branches, except in the very special circumstances during the financial year 1973-74.

The Industrial Finance Corporation of India during February 1974 has issued transfer orders involving 13 officials. These transfer orders will become effective during the next financial year i.e. 1974-75. These transfers are intended to develop the capability of officers of

the middle level by giving them opportunity to work at the branches and regional offices, which experience is considered essential for the smooth working of the Corporation.

The estimated initial expenditure on these transfers is likely to be of the order of Rs. 20,000. The recurring expenditure, if any, can only be estimated after these transfer orders are actually effected sometimes in May, 1974.

Frisking of women passengers at Tirupati

1018. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh have expressed their inability to make arrangements for the frisking of women passengers at Tirupati area;

(b) whether the Air Hostess of the flight to Tirupati has been asked by the Operations Manager of the Indian Airlines to undertake the work of frisking of women passengers at Tirupati area;

(c) if so, whether this is against the normal service rules and conditions of work of Air Hostesses; and

(d) whether any arrangements have been made for appointing Lady Ground Assistants for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has not expressed its inability to make arrangements for frisking of women passengers at Tirupati Airport. The local police could not provide any women police or Home Guards for frisking/searching of baggage of lady passengers as no women police or Home Guards are available there.

However, instructions were issued by Indian Airlines that frisking of women passengers at Tirupati should be done by Air Hostesses till alternative arrangements are made. In the past also, whenever lady searchers were not available at certain stations, frisking of lady passengers was done by the Air Hostess on duty.

Action has been taken by the State Government to enlist women home guards for this purpose.

Pay scales of Coffee Board employees

1019. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that employees of the Coffee Board, Bangalore have been agitating for introduction of new pay scales;

(b) whether Government have accepted the demand of the Coffee Board employees' association that the rationalised pay scales as recommended by the Coffee Board in 1969 should be implemented in toto before implementing the Third Pay Commission's Report; and

(c) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) All the just and reasonable demands of the Coffee Board Employees' Association, regarding the revision of the scales of pay of class III and IV posts in the Board have since been accepted by Government and their decision in this regard has been conveyed to the Coffee Board.

Posts reserved for S.C./S.T. persons in Reserve Bank of India

1020. SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total strength of clerical and subordinate staff in the