

(a) and (b). Yes Sir. A letter of Intent has been issued to the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., Trivandrum on 29th December, 1971 to set up a new industrial undertaking in that State to manufacture 2100 tonnes/annum of Nylon Filament Yarn. The letter of Intent contains, inter alia, the condition that the Corporation have to send within a period of 6 months from the date of issue of this letter their proposals regarding foreign collaboration and import of capital goods to the Government of India for approval. These proposals are awaited.

EXPANSION OF AIR SERVICES BY INDIAN AIRLINES

*265. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines scheme for expansion of its network of air-services has been adversely affected due to *its* shortage of planes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to meet the shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines is making a study of its future fleet requirements. It has already placed an order for 10 HS-748 aircraft on Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. Delivery of these planes is expected to commence shortly and should be completed by April 1973. Indian Airlines has taken a Boeing 707 on wet lease from Air-India for operation on some of its major routes. Air-India's capacity is also being utilised on some domestic sectors.

LOSS IN REVENUE DUE TO LACUNAE IN EXCISE REGULATION

266. SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that since 1969 there has been an average monthly loss of about Rs. 20 lakhs in excise recoveries from matches due to lacunae in the Excise regulations governing

the removal of matches from factory premises; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to avoid the drain from factories numbering about 1,500 spreading all over the country particularly in Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu and Haryana ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) The revenue from excise duty on matches has increased from Rs. 27.14 crores in 1969 to Rs. 28.46 crores in 1970 and to Rs. 29.27 crores (provisional) in 1971. The revenue in Sivakasi Central Excise Division, Tamil Nadu and Haryana has also increased from Rs. 11.13 crores, Rs. 14.44 crores and Rs. 6.7 thousand respectively in 1969 to Rs. 14.40 crores, Rs. 16.92 crores and Rs. 81.8 thousand respectively in 1971.

The entire question regarding Excise duty evasion after the introduction of Self Removal Procedure is, however, being looked into by the Central Excise S.R.P. Review Committee recently appointed,

RE CLASSIFICATION OF CITIES OF COCHIN, TRIVANDRUM AND CALICUT

*267. SHRI K. CHANDRA-SEKHARAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to re-classify the cities of Cochin, Trivandrum and Calicut and upgrade their status ; and

(b) If so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) Re-classification of cities/towns for purposes of compensatory allowances will be considered after the final report of 1971 census is available. There is accordingly no proposal for the re-classification of the cities of Cochin, Trivandrum and Calicut at present.

PAKISTANI PLANE SKYJACKED TO INDIA

370. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :
SHRI BHOLA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state ;

(a) Whether It is a fact that a Pakistani reconnaissance plane was skyjacked to India on January 4, 1972 ; and

(b) If so, the details of the incident and the outcome of the inquiry, if any conducted by Government in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) and (b) A Pakistani army reconnaissance plane made a forced landing near Maili and Sarangwal villages in Hoshiarpur District on 4. 1. 1972. The plane had on board 2nd Lt Hamayum Raza, a Bengali Pak officer and the dead body of another Pak officer, Major Qasim. While 2nd Lt Raza was taken into Police custody, the dead body of Major Qasim was handed over to Pak authorities on 7. 1. 1972.

GROWTH OF AIR TRAFFIC

371. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that with the increase in the carrying capacity by the introduction of Boeing 747, there has been no substantial corresponding increase in the growth of traffic ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the concessional fare offered by Air India to attract foreign tourists has met with little success ; and

(c) If so, the reasons therefor and the steps contemplated by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Traffic was adversely affected last year due to the monetary crisis in the United States and the western countries, and developments in the sub continent culminating in Pakistan's aggression against India. It is anticipated that traffic will pick up this year.

(b) and (c) The concessional fares have met with some success and the results would perhaps have been better but for the adverse factors mentioned in part (a) above.

SETTING UP OF AN OIL REFINERY NEAR DELHI

372. SHRI M.K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an oil refinery near Delhi ; and

(b) If so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard and what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H.R. GOKHALE) : (a) and (b) A Feasibility Report for setting up of an oil refinery in the North-West Region of the country with a capacity of about 6 million tonnes per annum, prepared by the Indian Oil Corporation, is under consideration of the Government. No decision in regard to its location has yet been taken. This project is expected to be commissioned during the Fifth Plan period.

TAX EVASION IN SALE OF LOTTERY TICKETS

373. SHRI M.K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have discovered a new type of tax evasion taking place in the sale of lottery tickets ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) A number of cases have come to the notice of the Government which indicate that prize winning tickets are privately purchased by others from the original purchasers of the ticket in order to explain their unaccounted money. Where lotteries are organised by contractors taxes are evaded by these contractors by suppressing the sale of lottery tickets and inflating the expenses. A case has come to the notice of the Government where it has become necessary to enquire whether the contractor