

(c) A committee has been set up to examine the need for a new international airport at Hyderabad. its report is awaited.

**Expansion of Air Service from Kerala to Gulf Countries**

2005. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with Government to Start more services from the Airports at Kerala to Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will permit foreign Airlines to have Service from Kochi Airport; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Proposals have been received from Government of Sri Lanka and Government of Oman for increasing services of their designated airlines from Thiruvananthapuram Airport. The Government of UAE and Government of Saudi Arabia have also requested for Thiruvananthapuram as an additional point of call for their designated airlines. Proposals have also been received from the Government of Oman and Government of Saudi Arabia for grant of Kochi as a point of call for their designated airlines.

(c) and (d) So far, Kochi has not been granted as a point of call to any foreign airline. International services are, however, operated out of Cochin Airport by Air India and Indian Airlines.

**Facilities to HAJ Pilgrims At Nedumbasseri Airport**

2006. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations to declare Nedumbasseri airport as an embarkation point for Haj-2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to enhance facilities of the Haj pilgrims travelling by Air India/Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, a request has been received from the Government of Kerala, and Cochin airport at Nedumbasseri is being considered as an embarkation point for Haj 2000.

(c) Air India has taken the following steps to enhance facilities for Haj Pilgrims:—

(i) A fulltime senior level co-ordinator has been appointed to be positioned at Jeddah to ensure smooth and improved coordination for the Haj operations; (ii) arrangements are being made to provide food, water and assistance to the Haj Pilgrims in the event of flight delay; (iii) separate areas/check-in counters/cells are made for handling/servicing the Haj pilgrims; and (iv) arrangements are made at Jeddah Airport for transport from aircraft to terminal, assistance to fill disembarkation cards, assistance in clearing formalities, assistance to sick and aged passengers, and segregation of baggage.

#### Confirmation of Tickets beyond Capacity in IC-809

† 2007. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 97 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th November, 1999 and state:

(a) what are the reasons that 22 confirmed tickets were issued in total for Bombay-Patna, Delhi-Patna, Delhi-Ranchi flights when there are only 20 seats in 'J' class in IC 809;

(b) whether this can happen in computerized reservation system;

(c) whether it is not against rule to provide more reservations than the number of seats available; and

(d) if so, the name of persons responsible for it and the action proposed to be taken by Govt. against them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) Based on average passenger carriage on a flight,