

forts, palaces, havelies, etc, if converted into hotels can be classified as heritage hotels, thereby providing a new dimension to tourism to the country. So far 22 hotels with 702 rooms have been classified under the Heritage category.

(c) It is not practical to estimate the impact of the scheme on tourist arrivals and foreign exchange earnings separately as tourist traffic is guided by a number of factors. There is no doubt however that these grand buildings do appeal to the imagination of foreign tourists.

Payment of salary to IA staff

292. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAM-
BHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the
Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines had to report to over-drafting for paying the salaries of staff and employees during recent months as reported in the Pioneer of 13th October, 1994; and

(b) if so, under what circumstances and to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL
AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI
GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Decision to cut operations on uneconomical routes

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR
SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the
Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND

TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has decided to cut operations on uneconomical routes in India and seek more business in overseas sector with a view to blending social responsibility with commercial viability; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the routes on which operations are to be cut or augmented under this decision?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL
AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI
GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b)
No decision has yet been taken by
Indian Airlines in this regard.

Scheme for promotion of tourism

294. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the
Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any uniform scheme for promotion of tourism in the country;

(b) if so, whether places in West Bengal have been brought under the purview of such scheme, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL
AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI
GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c)
For development of tourism in the
country, a National Action plan for
tourism was evolved and presented in
Parliament in May, 1992. The Action
Plan stipulates the priorities of the
Government for development of
tourism and strategy for its achieve-
ment. The Central Department of
Tourism extends financial assistance
to the State Governments including
West Bengal in respect of projects/
schemes priorities decided in consultation
with them for intensive development
of structural facilities, develop-
ment of Special Tourism Areas, diver-
sification of tourism products,
promotion of fairs and festivals,
development of infrastructure for
domestic tourism etc.

देश में निजी विमान कम्पनियों का
प्रचालन

295. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या
नागर विमानन और पर्यटन वंती यह
बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में इस समय कौन-
कौन सी निजी विमान कम्पनियाँ कार्यरत
हैं और उनकी विमानन-क्षमतायें क्या-
क्या हैं ; और