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(c) Indian Airlines has operated two additional flights on Calcutta-Port Blair-Calcutta route and eight additional flights on Delhi-Leh-Delhi route in May 1993 to cater to passenger demand.

Preventive measures for safe aircraft operation

- 500. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the DGCA has recently asked both the Indian Airlines and Air India, Air Taxi Operators, NAA and IAAI to ensure necessary preventive measures for safe aircraft operations in the country in view of the monsoons;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the detrails of the preventive measures taken by the above mentioned organisations for safe aircraft operation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. DGCA had issued instructions to take safety measures which, among others, include making use of instrument landing facilities, following of weather minima, maintaining serviceability of navigational and communication aids, communication of latest weather information to aircraft, ensuring serviceability of approach lights, runway lights and taxi track lights. Operators were advised to re-check all pilots. who acquired command rating after 1-4-92 regarding their flying proficiency monsoon weather.

(c) The flying proficiency checks of the pilots who acquired command rating after 1-4-92 have since been carried out. Other preventive measures are being taken by the concerned organisations.

Passengers carried by Indian Airlines and Air Taxi Operators

- 501. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) what is the total number of passengers carried by Indian Airlines and number of its aircrafts with it; and
- (b) what is the total number of passengers carried by Air Taxi Operators and number of its aircrafts with it?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Indian Airlines carried 78.21 lakh passengers during the year 1992-93 with an operational fleet of 54 aircraft.

(b) During 1992-93, Air Taxi Operators carried approximately 7.26 lakh passengers. Since Air Taxi operations are in the nature of charter/non-scheduled operations, the exact number of aircraft deployed by various operators during this period cannot be quantified readily.

Impact of Air Taxi Operations on I.A.

- 502. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;
- (a) whether Indian Airlines have made any study of likely impact of Air Taxi Operators on its working;
 - (b) if so, what are the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Based on traffic details of April to June 1993, Air Taxi Operators have carried about 20% of the total domestic air traffic, while the market size has remained stationary. The operations by Air Taxi Operators are mainly concentrated on highly profitable routes thus having an adverse impact on Indian Airlines profitability.

(c) Does not arise.

Repealing of Air Corporation Act, 1953

- 503. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government proposes to repeal Air Corporation Act, 1953;
 - (b) if so, what are the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For this purpose the Air Corporations (Transfer of undertakings and Repeal) Bill, 1992 was introduced in the Lok Sabha, on the 4th May. 1992.

(c) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Air Traffic Control Systems

504. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Misas-

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ter of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Airports Authority of India (N.A.A.I.) has any plan to modernise the Air Traffic Control Systems at Delhi or Bombay Airports; and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) A project for modernisation of Air Traffic Control facilities at Delhi and Bombay airports is under implementation by the National Airports Authority. The contract has been awarded in March, 1993. The project is expected to be completed in 30 months, at an estimated cost of Rs. 350 crores approximately.

Promotion of Tourism Development in Karnataka

505. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a US firm M/s. Park Services has shown interest in the joint promotion of tourism development in Karnataka:
- (b) if so, whether they have identified Srirangapatnam near Mysore as a part of the Master Plan to be implemented in active collaboration with Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation; and
- (c) what are the salient features of the proposed project and its present status?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) National Park Service, USA have agreed to prepare a conceptual plan for the development of Hampi in the State of Karnataka. No indication has been given by them for preparation of conceptual plans for the development of Srirangapatnam.

Development of Rock Garden at Chandigarh

506. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Rock Garden at Chandig..... has become very popular and is attracting a large number of tourists visiting Chandigarh:
- (b) whether any committee has been formed to monitor the progress and to step up the con-

struction of the third and the final phase; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and when it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Department of Tourism has not constituted any Committee to monitor the progress of construction of the third and final phase of Rock Garden at Chandigarh.

Introduction of point to point services by 1 \

- 507. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Indian Airlines has introduced point to point services for selected city pairs: and
 - (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Point to point fares have been introduced on 37 domestic routes, as given in the statement.

Statement

Routes where point to point fares have been introduced

Trichy-Madras-Delhi or vice versa Madurai-Madras-Delhi or vice versa Calcutta-Delhi-Ahmedahad or vice versa Lucknow-Delhi-Ahmedabad or vice versa Varanasi-Delhi-Bombay or vice versa Bhubaneshwar-Delhi-Bombay or vice versa Lucknow-Delhi-Bombay or vice versa Bombay-Calcutta-Guwahati or vice versa Bhopal-Bombay-Bangalore or vice versa Bhopal-Rombay-Hyderabad or vice versa Bhopal-Bombay-Goa or vice versa Bhopal-Bombay-Madras or vice versa Indore-Bombay-Bangalore or vice versa Indore-Rombay-Hyderabad or vice versa Indore-Bombay-Goa or vice versa Indore-Bombay-Madras or vice versa Mangalore-Bombay-Delhi or vice versa Hyderahad-Rombay-Ahmedahad or vice versa