

LAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines had to take prior approval of the Central Government before fixing fares and cargo tariff under the provisions of Air Corporations Act 1953. With the repeal of Air Corporations Act from 1-3-1994, the provision for taking prior approval of the Government also stands repealed.

Acquisition of Boeing 747-400 by Air India

6926. **SHRI SURESH KALMADI:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has decided to buy its fourth Boeing 747-400 through securitised debt; and

(b) if so, what are the complete details to be adopted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Air India is considering the possibility of restructuring the financing arrangements, through securitised debt, for the acquisition of the fourth Boeing 747-400 aircraft to be delivered in June, 1994. However, no final decision has been taken.

Withdrawal of Vayudoot Service

6927. **SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the date when Vayudoot service on Bhubaneswar-Jaypore-Vizag and Bhubaneswar-Raurkela-Calcutta sectors were withdrawn by the Vayudoot authorities;

(b) the main reason therefor;

(c) whether the customers, particularly the tourist, travellers and executives are facing a lot of difficulties in the absence of air services from these cities; and

(d) if so, the steps taken so provide Vayudoot/air services to other cities?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Due to commercial and operational reasons, Vayudoot services on the route Hyderabad-Bhubaneswar-Jeypore-Vizag were withdrawn in the month of September, 1989. The services on the Calcutta-Bhubaneswar and Calcutta-Rourkela sectors were withdrawn in October, 1987 and September, 1990 respectively.

(c) and (d) Requests are received for reintroduction of these flights but Vayudoot is not in a position to start its operation in Orissa due to the reasons mentioned above.

Expansion of Bhubaneswar Airport

6928. **SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the expansion of Bhubaneswar Airport; and

(b) if so, the funds earmarked therefor;

(c) the target date set for completion of the Bhubaneswar Airport; and

(d) the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Bhubaneswar airport is being developed as a model airport. The plan includes extension of runway to 9000 feet and construction of a terminal building at a total cost of Rs. 24.42 crores.

(c) The work on construction of terminal building is expected to be completed by March, 1995. No target date for completion of runway extension has been fixed, since the road passing through the land proposed for runway extension is to be diverted by the State Government.

(d) About 33 per cent of the work of the terminal building has been completed.

Development of Island Tourism in Andaman and Nicobar and Laksha Dweep

6929. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid down strict conditions for the development of islands tourism in Andaman and Nicobar islands as also Lakshadweep islands; and

(b) if so what are those conditions and how Government propose to develop tourism in those islands on the strict conditions imposed by the Ministry of Environment and Forest?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India vide Notification dated 20th February 1991 laid down regulations for sustainable development activity on the coastal stretches called Coastal Regulation Zone.

(b) The Notification clearly specifies prohibited activities and permissible activities. All tourism activity comes under the permissible activity of Coastal Regulation Zone. Based on this specific Islands in Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep are being developed for tourism.

Irregularities by ITDC Officers

6930. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of corruption, misappropriation of funds, misuse of official machinery, other irregularities and violation of rules among ITDC officials were detected since

the present Executive Director (Vigilance) took over;

(b) the details of each case;

(c) how many officials were since suspended;

(d) how many were since charge-sheeted;

(e) how many officials were dismissed/removed/discharged from ITDC during this period, giving details of each case; and

(f) what steps are being taken to revamp ITDC Vigilance division?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Since the assumption of charge by the present Executive Director (Vigilance) in ITDC, 62 cases relating to misappropriation of funds, misuse of official position, procedural irregularities, etc., were detected, the details of which are given as under:

(i) Not substantiated	14
(ii) Concluded/closed after disciplinary action	61
(iii) Action in progress after issuing of charge-sheets	67
(iv) Cases in hand after investigation	13
(v) Under investigation	24

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62
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(c) to (e) On the basis of the investigations, three employees were suspended and 13 employees were served with charge-sheets. No employee has been dismissed/removed from service.

(f) The steps which are being taken by ITDC to revamp its Vigilance Division include introduction of new MIS (Monthly Information System), augmentation of manpower etc.