

Airlines Corporations, permitted to operate in India;

(b) what is the number of private Airlines Corporations which have been permitted to operate in India; and

(c) whether private sector is allowed to construct airports, to be owned and operated by the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Private employers are free to offer any emoluments and other terms and conditions of service. Government have no control over them.

(b) At present, nine Air Taxi operators have been permitted to operate air taxi services in India.

(c) Yes, Sir subject to approval by the Director General of Civil Aviation.

New International Airports in the Country

41. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the new international airports which are proposed to be set up in the country and by when they are likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): The existing international airports are sufficient to cater to the international air traffic at present.

Attracting Foreign Tourists in the Country

42. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the steps Government are taking to increase the number of foreign tourists in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): The steps being taken by the Government to

increase the inflow of foreign tourists to the country include improvement of infra-structural facilities, intensive development of specific circuits and special tourism areas and strengthening of publicity campaigns in the tourist generating markets.

Setting up of a new air field in North-East region

43. SHRI MATANG SING: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government consideration to construct an air-field in the North-East region during the next five years;

(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 MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) North Eastern Council has suggested that an airport may be provided at Lengpui, National Airports Authority is however not in a position to undertake this project because of the prohibitively high cost of the order of Rs. 70 crores.

Development of new areas in North Eastern Region for tourism during next five years

44. SHRI MATANG SING: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government consideration to develop new areas for tourism in the North Eastern region during the next five years; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Development of new areas for Tourism is primarily the responsibility of

the respective State Governments. However, the Central Government extends financial assistance on specific proposals for development of tourism infrastructure and publicity on the basis of their merits, *inter se* priority and availability of funds.

Joining of foreign airlines by Indian Airlines Pilots

45. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. SANJAYA SINH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is unabated exodus of Senior Indian Airlines pilots to join foreign Airlines;

(b) if so, what is the number of Indian Airlines pilots who have left during the last one year indicating the name of the regions (with number) from where pilots have left and the airlines they have joined and the total shortage of pilots in the Indian Airlines;

(c) what besides monetary gains, are the reasons identified by Government for their continuous exodus;

(d) whether any talk was held with the pilots in this connection; if so, what is the outcome thereof; and

(e) what is the manner in which the shortage of pilots is proposed to be met?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Inquiry report of air crash at Imphal

46. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inquiry instituted by Government into the Indian Airlines IC 267 crash near Imphal has been completed and report submitted to Government;

(b) if so, what are the details of the findings of the Court of Inquiry; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The report of the Court of Inquiry alongwith Government of India's decision on the findings and recommendations thereon has been placed in the Parliament House Library *vide* Index No. 363. 12465R N-1.

Development of Ajmer and Puskar in Rajasthan

47. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to develop Ajmer and Puskar as major pilgrim and tourist centres during the next few years;

(b) whether Government have also decided to bring Ajmer on the air map so as to attract foreign tourists and also to construct Yatri Niwas both at Ajmer and Puskar; and

(c) if so, what is the amount of Central assistance so far provided to Rajasthan Government during the current financial year as well as likely to be given during the Eighth Five Year Plan period for beautifying Durgah at Ajmer and repairing Sarovar Ghats of Puskar Temple?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Ajmer has been identified as one of the Pilgrim Centres.

(b) and (c) It is contemplated to jointly construct an airstrip at Ajmer with the cooperation of Government of Rajasthan. One Yatrika at Ajmer at an estimated cost of Rs. 29.92 lakh was sanctioned during 1991-92. There is no proposal for a Yatri Niwas at Puskar. The