

Air services to Surat

2698. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce air service from Indore, Bangalore, Delhi and Bhavnagar to Surat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The airport at Surat is not suitable for operation of aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines. Vayudoot is operating Bombay Surat Bhavnagar and back three days a week. It has no plan to operate service through Surat to other stations due to operational and commercial reasons.

Spares shortage hits Indian Airlines network

2699. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that repeated failures of some critical components on the A-320 Aircraft and the Airbus Industries reluctance to promptly replace these guaranteed spare parts have thrown the Indian Airlines network into disarray as reported in the Times of India, dated June 27, 1992 under the title "Spares shortage hits Indian Airlines network"; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken/propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) There were premature failures of some of the components of A-320 aircraft. However, guarantees and warranties of such components are the direct responsibility of the original equipment manufacturers and not the Airbus Industries. These

conditions are being honoured by the original equipment manufacturers. In case of delays, the matter is taken up at appropriate levels and close inter-action is maintained with the manufacturers.

Air service to Hubli, Mysore and Bellary

2700. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka Government and the people's representatives are making repeated requests for resuming air services from Hubli, Mysore and Bellary airports, which were suspended in 1989;

(b) whether Government are aware that these three airports are link airports for development of tourism, since many places of historic importance are located around the three airports; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to resume air services at an early date, removing impediments if any which are coming in the way?

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

(b) and (c) Due to commercial and operational reasons it is not possible for Vayudoot to restore its services to Hubli, Mysore and Bellary at present.

Private Airlines facing problem of coordination

2701. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given permission to the private airlines to operate in the country;

(b) whether the private airlines are facing numerous problems of coordination with the International Airports Authority, National Airports Authority and the Indian Airlines; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose for better coordination and smooth functioning of these aircrafts?

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

(b) and (c) Air taxi operators had some problems relating to allotment of counter space, hangar space, etc., at various airports, particularly at Bombay and Delhi airports. The operators also had problems relating to availability of watch hours at smaller airports. Many of the problems have been sorted out through consultations from time to time between air taxi operators and the concerned agencies. Mutual consultations are held as and when necessary.

Development of tourism during Tourism year

2702. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 1991 was declared by Government of India as the Tourism year;

(b) if so, what efforts were made by different agencies of Government including I.T.D.C. to develop more tourists infrastructure in the country during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 and whether there has been any positive effect on the tourism industry due to the same; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any effort was made to run I.T.D.C. activities in a systematic manner during the above-said period?

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

(b) Development of tourism infrastructure is a continuous process and is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92, Central financial assistance, apart from the augmentation of tourism infrastructure was also extended to some of the States and to the ITDC for upgradation of accommodation, transport and communication facilities etc.

The achievement of the tourism industry is reflected in the growth of 20.6 recorded in tourists arrivals during the first six months of the current year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Modernisation of airports

2703. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals for the modernisation of airports and related facilities in our country and the money allocated with details thereof;

(b) whether there is any proposal for the development of Trivandrum Airport as an airport of International standard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Modernisation of airports and related facilities in the country is a continuing process and is taken up in a phased manner depending upon protected requirements of user airlines and availability of resources, land etc.

(b) and (c) Trivandrum is an international airport already. The International Airports Authority of India has formulated long term development and modernisation plans for the airport. The security lounge and domestic departure have been airconditioned.

Airconditioning the arrival area is expected by December, 1993. Provision has also been made for a New Terminal Complex, besides other works such as cargo complex, security fencing roads, improvement of runways, taxiways apron etc.

Expenditure incurred on ITDC executives

2704. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the perks/facilities being given to executives of ITDC during 1970-71, 1975-76 1980-81;