

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCTNDIA): (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 SCTNDIA): (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 SCTNDIA): (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;

1985-86 and 1991, Categorywise and the quantum of amount spent by the ITDC during that period; and

(b) whether it is a fact that ITDC's Central overhead expenses increased year after year during the above period, if so, what are the details thereof and what were the efforts made to curtail the non-plan expenditure in ITDC during the above said period and results achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The perks/facilities being given to the executives of ITDC are based on operational requirements, like any other commercial organisation, and their entitlements are decided from time to time by the management. These perks/facilities include residential accommodation/telephone, staff car, medical, uniform and duty free meals to the hoteliering cadre, etc. It is not feasible to give the quantum of amount spent by ITDC on the perks/facilities during the period.

(b) Expenditure on overheads has increased from Rs. 22.13 lakhs in 1971-72 to Rs. 714.34 lakhs in 1990-91 due to inflation as well as growth/increased activities of the Corporation. However, the percentage of overheads to turnover remains almost the same. ITDC make all possible efforts to contain its non-plan expenditure.

Growth rate target set for Air India and Indian Airlines during the 8th Plan

2705. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate target set for Air India and Indian Airlines during the Seventh Five Year Plan has been achieved;

(b) what is the growth rate target fixed for the 8th Plan for Air India and Indian Airlines;

(c) whether the growth rate target set for the two airlines during the 8th Plan are not too ambitious in the light of

financial and physical performance during the last three years; and

(d) if not, in what manner the two airlines propose to meet the growth rate target during the 8th Five Year Plan?

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

(b) The target of growth rate of Air India for the 8th Five Year Plan in terms of ATKMs is 5.9 per annum. For Indian Airlines, the planned rate of growth in passenger traffic during the 8th Five Year Plan is 8 per cent per year.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Both Air India and Indian Airlines propose to achieve the projected rates of growth through their respective fleet renewal plans.

Development of Tourism in Assam

2706. SHRI MATANG SING: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a lot of work to be done for promotion of tourism in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to popularise the tourist spots in Assam for local and foreign tourists; and

(c) what are the projects recently under taken by Government for improvement of tourism in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism is a continuous process and primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, However, in order to augment tourism infrastructural facilities so as to popularise the tourism spots in Assam for domestic and foreign tourists, the following projects/schemes have been listed for