

2. The criteria for judging the States/UTs. performance and their eligibility for the award will be the same as for the States having population of one crore and above.

Grouping of States/UTs. for cash awards, 1984-85 (on the basis of C.P.R. as on 1-4-1984).

Group A : Maharashtra, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat. & Kerala.

Group B : Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Karnataka & West Bengal.

Group C : Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Rajasthan, Bihar & Uttar Pradesh.

Group D : Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura, Mani-pur, Meghalaya, & Goa, Daman & Diu.

Group E : Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Pondicherry, Mizoram, Chandigarh Sikkim, A&N Islands, D & N Haveli & Lakshadweep.

Route rationalisation of the air services

1740. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 247 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th August, 1985 regarding route rationalisation of the air services, and state*

(a) whether the Committee appointed to study and recommend route rationalisation of the services if the Air India, Indian Airlines and Vayu-doot has submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when the report is expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER), (a) to (c) A Committee has been set up to examine the feasibility of a joint fleet and route rationalisation for augmenting efficiency and better utilisation of aircraft and equipment. By its very nature, this is a time consuming exercise. Action is being taken on the ideas thrown up by this Committee, in a phased manner. For example, Air India has already started carrying passengers on the domestic leg of its international services and Indian Airlines has started operating to Bangkok.

New aircraft for the Indian Airlines

1741. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision with regard to the number of new aircraft to be purchased to increase the fleet strength of the Indian Airlines during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No new aircraft is proposed to be purchased by Indian Airlines during the current financial year. Indian Airlines have, however, issued a Letter of Intent for the purchase of 31 Airbus A320 aircraft (19 on Arm basis and 12 on option), delivery of which will be made in 1989-90.

Interest of West German firm in the Ship Building Industry

1742. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a West German firm has evinced keen