

V.I.P. lounge at Vijayawada Airport

1129. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBA SIVA RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint regarding the poor maintenance of V.I.P. lounge at Vijayawada airport;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the lounge often remains closed and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government propose to take to make the lounge available to the V.I.P.s?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Instructions exist requiring the V.I.P. room to be opened sufficiently before the arrival of the scheduled services.

Central agency for purchase of tobacco in Andhra Pradesh

1130. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBA SIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have recently allocated Rs. 10 crores to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for the purchase of tobacco from the tobacco growers in that State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has expressed its inability to undertake this task;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up a Central Agency for the purchase of tobacco from the growers in Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Images transmitted by Salyut-7

1131. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the images transmitted by Salyut-7 will help in the country's future oil exploration plans; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Photographs taken during the remote sensing experiments 'TERRA' conducted during the Joint Soviet-Indian manned space flight are expected to yield valuable information about the country's natural resources including oil.

(b) These photographs are yet to be analysed by the specialists of Indian Space Research Organisation and National Remote Sensing Agency who sponsored the experiment.

Fraudulent purchase of prize winning tickets

1132. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Indian Express of April 11, 1984 captioned "Mystery about Navy Raffle Prize winners";

(b) if so, whether Government are looking into the conversion of large amounts of black money through purchase of prize winning tickets by underhand means as depicted in the report; and

(c) what is the outcome of the investigations made so far?