

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Steps are being taken to get the encroachments removed from the priority areas in consultation with the International Airports Authority of India and Government of Maharashtra.

Punctuality in Air India and Indian Airlines

192. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of punctuality of Indian Airlines and Air India during the last seven months;

(b) whether there were any re-scheduling of Air India and Indian Airlines flights during the above period; and

(c) whether Air India and Indian Airlines commenced making profits in spite of the rise in fuel prices; if so, since when?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Vijaynagar Steel Project

193. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any revised feasibility report for the Vijaynagar Steel Project;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is the estimated cost of the project; and

(c) by when the work on the project for which the foundation stone was laid by the Prime Minister, is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal, based on revised DPR prepared by MECON and employing the conventional Blast Furnace—Basic Oxygen Furnace—Concast Rolling mill route for production of flat products, visualises the setting up of an integrated steel plant at Vijayanagar having a production capacity of 3.1 million tonnes of liquid steel. The broad indicative "order of magnitude" cost for the aforesaid integrated steel plant is Rs. 2962.9 crores; this will, however, require firming up after an investment decision has been taken by Government.

(c) The actual construction and erection of the steel plant will commence only after completion of a detailed examination of all the aspects of the proposal of SAIL, finalisation of necessary financial and technical details in consultation with the Ministries concerned and an investment decision by the Government.

Foreign Exchange Reserves and borrowings from IMF

194. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position of foreign exchange reserves of the country;

(b) how much foreign exchange has flown into the country through (i) our exports and (ii) through the remittances from Indian Nationals abroad, during the current calendar year; and

(c) whether any financial borrowings have been made from the I.M.F. and World Bank, during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) The foreign exchange reserves (excluding Gold and Special Drawing