

operated by ITDC at Kushinagar, Sanchi, Bodhgaya, Tiruchirapalli, Thanjavur, Konarak, Kancheepuram, Kulu-Manali, Mandu, Bijapur and Ajanta.

Export of iron ore from Vishakhapatnam Harbour

256. SHRI M. R. APPAROW: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of iron ore exported by M.M.T.C. during the months of December 1981 and January 1982;

(b) how much of it was exported through Vishakhapatnam Outer-harbour;

(c) whether there is any proposal to export more iron ore fines from Vishakhapatnam harbour; and

(d) what is the total amount earned from the export of iron ore fines during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) During December, 1981 and January, 1982, 9.46 and 16.76 lakhs tonnes of iron ore respectively were exported by MMTC from various ports.

(b) The export of iron ore from Vizag port during December, 1981 and January, 1982 was 2.08 and 6.17 lakh tonnes respectively.

(c) The M.M.T.C. is trying to increase export of iron ore from Vishakhapatnam harbour subject to orders and availability thereof.

(d) An amount of Rs. 287.58 crores was earned on the export of iron ore fines by India during the last three financial years.

Vayudoot air service to Jalpaiguri, West Dinajpur and Malda

257. SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN:
SHRI SUDHAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Government of West Bengal for introduction of Vayudoot air service in the district headquarters of Jalpaiguri, West Dinajpur and Malda besides Cooch Behar;

(b) whether Government have agreed to send a study-team to visit these places to examine the feasibility of introduction of this air service at these places; and

(c) if so, whether this study team has been sent, and if not, by when this team is likely to be sent?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As some time would be required for making the airstrips at these stations suitable for F-27 operations, these stations cannot be considered for airlinking in the immediate expansion programme of Vayudoot services. The question therefore of sending a study team at present does not arise.

Reserve Bank of India Branch at Siliguri

258. SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN:
SHRI SUDHAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal under Government's consideration to set up a branch of the Reserve Bank of India at Siliguri in North Bengal; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.