

at an estimated cost of Rs. 58.00 crores is under implementation. Some other proposals for modernisation of IISCO are at discussion stage with Soviet Design Organisation and MECON.

Beautification of Marina Beach at Madras

183. SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to beautify Marina Beach at Madras so as to attract tourists; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal in the Central Sector.

(b) Does not arise.

Direct flight from Madras to Bangkok and other Eastern countries

184. SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce a direct flight from Madras to Bangkok and also to other Eastern countries;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to start; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The traffic movement is mainly to Singapore and Malaysia, and Air

India alongwith the airlines of these two countries, viz. Singapore Airlines and Malaysia Airways, provides adequate capacity to cater to this traffic. The traffic potential does not warrant the introduction of a direct flight from Madras to Eastern countries.

Conventional Chit Fund business

185. SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 478 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th June, 1980 and state:

(a) the names and particulars of the 1298 companies engaged in conventional chit fund business as on 12th December, 1978;

(b) the names of the companies which have filed writ petitions challenging the applicability of the provisions of the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978, to their schemes;

(c) whether final decision on such cases has since been taken;

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

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The names of the companies which have filed writ petitions in the various High Courts challenging the applicability of the provisions of the Prize Chit and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978, to their schemes have been given in the enclosed list.

(c) to (e) Writ petitions have not yet come up for hearing in the concerned High Courts.