

(b) if so, by when direct air flight from Delhi to Bhubaneswar is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Not yet. The work of recarpetting is still in progress.

(b) Indian Airlines are actively considering introducing such a service as soon as the runway work is complete and replacement aircraft for the one lost at Hyderabad in December last is available.

Revision of pension formula

10. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 108 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th July, 1978 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision on the revision of pension formula for the Central Government employees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Fall in National Savings

11. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a decline in the rate of national savings this year; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government are contemplating in order to boost the savings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ZULFIQUARULLAH) (a) and (b) It is presumed that information is required in respect of Small Savings Schemes of the Government of India. If so, it may be stated that the small savings collections have been increasing from year to year as shown below:—

(Rupees in crores)

Year.	Collections	
	Gross	Net*
1974-75	1341.68	325.78
1975-76	1552.30	393.98
1976-77	1697.52	405.34
1977-78	2039.45	552.64
1978-79 (upto Nov. '78).	1470.34	381.95

*Gross deposits minus withdrawals encashments.

The net small savings collections during the current financial year from April to November 1978 at Rs. 381.95 crores are more than the net collections for the corresponding period of the previous financial year by about Rs. 155 crores.

Luring away of trained personnel by West Asian and Gulf countries

12. SHRI PRAKASH MEHTOTRA:
SHRI BHIM RAJ;
SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA;

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

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that the trained personnel of Indian Airlines, Air India and India Tourism Development Corporation are being lured by the West Asian and Gulf countries by offering them higher wages and better perks; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to stop this drain?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir. There have been instances of trained personnel, particularly from Air-India and Indian Airlines, leaving the service of the Corporation because of attractive terms offered by organizations abroad, particularly in the Middle East.

(b) The following steps have been taken to prevent exodus from Air-India and Indian Airlines;

(i) Air-India have contacted the managements of concerned international airlines to firstly ascertain their actual requirements and suggested that they should minimise and spread out in-take of employees of Air-India.

(ii) In the case of pilots and other flying crew their allowances to meet expenses while on flying duty abroad have been revised upwards to meet the higher costs.

(iii) Other incentives such as raising of retirement age of these categories upto sixty years, implementation of superannuation and group insurance schemes, etc. are also being considered.

(iv) Indian Airlines have made arrangements for providing training to the personnel of some Middle East countries and are also loaning their personnel in some technical fields to these Airlines.

Landing facilities at Lucknow Airport

13. SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that some of the flights which are unable to land in Delhi are often diverted to Lucknow;

(b) if so, whether the facilities available at Lucknow airport are very inadequate and as such passengers of

these diverted flights are put to a lot of inconvenience; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to enlarge the facilities at Lucknow airport in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The existing passenger handling facilities are inadequate for the increased traffic. Government propose to make additions and alterations to the existing terminal building at an estimated cost of Rs. 20 lakhs. The estimates for these works are under preparation.

Recommendations of the Seventh Finance Commission

14. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:
SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assam Government have expressed deep resentment on the recommendations of the 7th Finance Commission regarding the share of the State;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government thereto; and

(c) what further steps Government propose to take to ensure that the development of relatively under-developed states like Assam is not slowed down due to shortage of financial resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL): (a) and (b) A resolution adopted by the Assam Legislature to this effect was forwarded by the State Government. The recommendations of the Finance Commission relating to devolution of taxes and