

by the Reserve Bank of India to select unbanked rural centres for branch opening during 1978 in the district where the population coverage of the bank is poorer than the national average. Fourteen such districts have been identified by the Reserve Bank of India in the State of Andhra Pradesh. These are Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Karimnagar, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam and Warrangal.

Tourist traffic to Tripura

1. SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tourists who visited Tripura during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have made an assessment regarding the potential for further growth of tourism in the State;

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

(d) what steps Government propose to take to develop tourism in the State?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Since the Department of Tourism does not maintain tourist statistics on state-wise basis, no figure of visitors to Tripura during the last three years are available.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to the existing entry restrictions on international tourists visiting the State, no tourism schemes have been taken up in Tripura in the Central Sector. However, in the State Annual Plan for 1978-79, a provision of Rs. 6 lakhs has been made towards the development of tourist facilities in Tripura.

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Development of tea plantation industry in Tripura

2. SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is considerable potential for development of tea plantation industry in Tripura;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made in this regard; and

(c) whether the Central Government propose to take any steps in cooperation with the State Government for further development of tea industry in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Techno-Economic Survey of the tea industry in Tripura has been completed and the data collected is being processed.

(c) Yes, Sir, such steps are presently under consideration by the Tea Board of India.

Port Blair airfield

3. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY:

SHRI R. D. JAGTAP AVERGOANKAR:

SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA:
SHRI JAGAN NATH

BHARDWAJ:

SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI:

SHRI LAL BUAIA:

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

(a) what is the capacity of the Boeing Aircraft operated on bi-weekly service between Calcutta and Port Blair and what is its daily average occupancy;

(b) whether it is a fact that the airfield at Port Blair is not strong and large enough to enable the Boeing to take the full load of passengers; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to develop the airfield?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) The capacity offered on Boeing 737 bi-weekly service between Calcutta and Port Blair is about 100 seats each way. Its average occupancy is 55-60 passengers each way.

(b) The runway load-bearing strength is not adequate for operation of Boeing 737 aircraft with full load. The use of full length of the runway and all weather bi-directional operations are not possible due to the hills in the approach of each end of the runway.

(c) The existing aerodrome can be developed only for visual uni-directional operations for Boeing-737. The comparative economics of developing the existing aerodrome and constructing a new aerodrome at an alternative site are being studied in view of the heavy investment involved in either case.

मंत्रालय में दो भाषाओं में नाम-पट्टियां

4. डा० लोकेश चन्द्र : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली में उनके मंत्रालय के अधीन सभी कार्यालयों में नाम-पट्टियां दो भाषाओं में हैं ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं तो इस प्रकार सभी नाम पट्टियों को दो भाषाओं में कब तक किया जायेगा ?

†[Bi-lingual name plates in the Ministry

4. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the offices under his Ministry located in Delhi have bilingual name plates; and

(b) if not, by when all such name-plates will be so made]

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरिफ बेग) : (क) जी नहीं । तथापि, इस मंत्रालय के अधीन दिल्ली स्थित अधिकांश कार्यालयों में नाम-पट्टियां दो भाषाओं में हैं ।

(ख) मार्च, 1978 के अन्त तक ।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG): (a) No, Sir. However, most of the offices under this Ministry located in Delhi have bilingual name-plates.

(b) By the end of March, 1978].

Rise in price of standard gold

5. SHRIMATI HAMIDA HABIB-ULLAH:

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA:

SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL:

SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON:

SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of standard gold has shot up to the highest ever level following the recent demonetisation of high denomination currency notes; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

†[] English translation.