

Civil Aviation Development Fund

444. SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH TALIB: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state purpose of the Civil Aviation Development Fund ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : The Civil Aviation Development Fund was created for the following purposes :—

(i) For payment of subvention to Indian Airlines for operation of un-economic routes not otherwise justified on commercial considerations but which may be necessary to meet regional requirements or for promotion of tourism.

(ii) For construction of airstrips and provision of ancillary facilities for the operation of the services referred to in (i) above, which could not be fitted into the general programme of the Civil Aviation Department.

(iii) For payment of subvention on account of purchase by Indian Airlines of aircraft (manufactured in India) to replace or supplement their existing fleet.

Investment in India Tourism Development Corporation

445. SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON :

SHRI NIRANJAN SINGH TALIB:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the total amount of investment in the India Tourism Development Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : The total amount of investment in India Tourism Development Corporation as on 31st March, 1976 was Rs. 2018.27 lakhs.

Payment by foreigners to Indian Airlines in Indian currency

446. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that foreigners, residing and carrying on work, business or profession in India can now pay in rupees for travel on the domestic sector of the Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, whether this facility is also available to non-resident foreigners visiting India on business?

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

(b) This facility is available only to such 'non-resident' passengers who produce an Encashment Certificate, issued by an approved money-changer, certifying that the holder has exchanged foreign currency to obtain the Indian rupees tendered for payment.

Farmers and weaker sections of the society benefited by Institutional Financing

447. SHRI NARASINGH PRASAD NANDA : Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent to which small farmers, marginal farmers and other sections of people living below the subsistence level have been benefited by institutional financing during 1975-76; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the assistance to such beneficiaries is below 10 per cent. of the total rural financing; if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b). A statement is enclosed.

Statement

Information in the manner asked for is not available. Institutional finance is being provided to the rural areas by commercial banks, cooperatives and Regional