

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFULPATEL): (a) Category-IIIA Instrument Landing System (ILS) has been installed at Delhi Airport in December, 2001 and is working satisfactorily. However, not all airlines have been able to fully utilize this facility primarily on account of lack of trained pilots. Category NIB and IIC ILS has not so far been installed at Delhi Airport.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans to upgrade the existing facility to Category IIIB and also to install other associated facilities in order to facilitate landing of aircrafts in a visibility range of 200 meters to 50 meters.

Amendment of Competition Act, 2002

1415. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India has allowed the Centre to amend the Competition Act, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to set up an Appellate Tribunal headed by a retired Supreme Court Judge or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court to hear the appeals against the orders of Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the Bill is likely to be passed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) to (e) The Supreme Court, in its Judgement dated 20.01.2005 on the Writ Petition filed by Shri Brahm Dutt challenging certain provisions of the Competition Act, 2002, while disposing of the Writ Petition has left open all questions regarding the validity of the enactment to be decided once amendments necessary to ensure consistency with constitutional provisions are made or attempted. An exercise has been initiated to review the enactment in light of the Supreme Court Judgement.

Opening of an Office of Registrar of Companies at Ranchi

†1416. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has agreed to open an office of the Registrar of Companies in Ranchi (Jharkhand);

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) by when the above said office is likely to start functioning in Ranchi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) to (c) The matter is under consideration.

Role of Independent directors in Corporate Governance

1417. SHRI S.M. LAUAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received the Naresh Chandra and the Narayana Murthy Committees reports on the role of Independent Directors in companies, etc;

(b) whether Government have examined these reports;

(c) if so whether it is also a fact that the major recommendations have been abandoned by Government with regard to Independent Directors;

(d) what steps Government would take to ensure that Independent Directors have a clear and strong role in Corporate Governance; and

(e) if so, the details of steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA)

(a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) to (e) Issues relating to management & governance in Companies are being examined as a part of comprehensive review of the Companies Act, 1956 taken up by the Government with the issuance of a Concept Paper on the website of the Ministry of Company Affairs on 04-08-2004 and subsequent constitution of an Expert Committee headed by Dr. J.J. Irani. The work of the Committee is in progress.

Registration of foreign companies

1418. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign companies operating in India since 1991, State-wise;

(b) the foreign companies registered since 2001;

(c) the profits earned by those existing foreign companies during the last five years; and