

23. Three Service Chiefs viz., Chief of Army Staff, Chief of Air Staff, Chief of Naval Staff.
24. The Chief Justices and Judges of High Courts in States.
25. Secretaries to the Government of India.
26. Members of State Legislatures.
27. Any person to whom Government desires to accord V.I.P. treatment.

Increase of fare by Indian Airlines

47. SHRI GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

SHRI N. G. GORAY:

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

(a) whether it is fact that the Indian Airlines have recently increased the air fare; and

(b) if so the details of the fare increased?

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

(b) The fares have been increased by 25% from 1.2.1974.

Purchase of Boeing 737 aircrafts by Indian Airlines

48. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines have entered into an agreement for the purchase of three Boeing 737 aircrafts for their fleet;

(b) if so, the details of the deal and its foreign exchange content; and

(c) the routes on which these aircrafts are proposed to be put into operation?

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

(b) The broad details of the agreement are as under:—

(i) The basic price of the Boeings is US \$5,473,551 each.

(ii) One aircraft each will be delivered in the months of September, October and November, 1974.

(iii) The agreement is subject to Government's approval and to suitable financing arrangements being made to cover

the foreign exchange cost of the project.

(c) The additional Boeings are meant essentially to augment services on trunk and some regional routes where traffic density warrants the use of these aircrafts.

Rise in Cost of Living Index

49. SHRI GANESH LAL MALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the cost of living index in November and December 1973 and January 1974 and what was the average for preceding twelve months in respect of this index in each of these months; and

(b) whether according to the formula laid down by the Third Pay Commission, further instalments of increase in the D.A. payable to Central Government employees have fallen due and if so, what steps have been taken to pay such increased D.A. to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The All-India Working Class Consumer Price Index figures for November and December 1973, taking base year 1960=100, are 259 and 260 respectively and the 12-monthly average is 231.83 and 236 respectively. The index figures for January 1974 is not yet available.

(b) In terms of the formula of the Third Pay Commission, a further instalment of dearness allowance would be due to the Central Government employees drawing pay upto Rs. 900 in the revised scales of pay, with effect from 1st January, 1974. The matter is receiving attention.

Development of Tourism Centre in Tamil Nadu

50. SHRI THILLAI VILLAIAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to give financial aid to the Tamil Nadu Government for the development of tourist centre at 'Kaveri Poom pattinam'; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. (SMT.) SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) No proposal has been