

OFFICES OF FOREIGN AIRWAYS AGENCIES SHIFTED FROM CALCUTTA

100. SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign airways agencies which have so far shifted their offices from Calcutta to other places in the country ;

(b) whether it is a fact that some foreign airways agencies have expressed their willingness for re-opening offices at Calcutta ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) During the last twelve months, 3 foreign airlines *viz.* Qantas Empire Airways, Pan American Airways and Japan Airlines have discontinued scheduled services to Calcutta of their own accord.

(b) A request has been received from KLM who had earlier transferred their once weekly frequency from Calcutta to Delhi, to operate a new and additional service through Calcutta which they are not entitled to under the existing Air Services Agreement.

(c) Government would welcome the resumption of services by foreign airlines who have the rights to operate.

5-STAR HOTELS

101. SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH :
SHRI KRISHAN KANT :
SHRI SYED AHMAD :
SHRI D. P. SINGH :
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR :
DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

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

(a) what has been the occupancy rate of the 5-Star Hotels during the last five years, year-wise and hotel-wise ; and

(b) whether it is a fact that more than 60 per cent of them are being used by business executives and other Indian tourists ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

102. [Transferred to the 9th August, 1972.]

AID GIVEN BY THE AID INDIA CONSORTIUM

103. SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE :
SHRI KRISHAN KANT :
SHRI SYED AHMAD :
SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE :
SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH :
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR :
SHRI MONORANJAN ROY :
SHRI NIREN GHOSH :
SHRISASANKASEKHAR SANYAL :
DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN.
SHRI SALIL KUMAR GANGULI :
SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :
SHRI CHANDRAMOULI JAGARLAMUDI :
SHRI K. C. PANDA :
SHRI D. P. SINGH :
SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA :
SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH :
SHRI KALYAN ROY :
DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that except USA all other members of Aid India Consortium at its meeting held in Paris in June, 1972 have agreed to increase quantum of aid to India ; and

(b) if so, the extent of aid granted by the consortium for the current year and how much of it is non-project aid ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) At the meeting of the Aid India Consortium held in Paris in June, 1972, it was agreed that India required substantial new commitments of aid to strengthen and support her effort at increasing the pace of economic progress. Members noted that for the year 1972-73, fresh commitments of non-project assistance (including debt relief) of about \$700 million and project assistance of about \$550 million would be necessary to prevent a sharp decline in the transfer of resources to India.

Most members indicated the contribution they would be able to make, subject to necessary approval of their Governments, towards these goals. Other members expected to be able to do so, later in the year, and gave their support to the overall programme.

A copy of the communique issued by the Bank is being laid on the Table of the House.

COMMUNIQUE

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, June 14, 1972

SUBJECT : *Meeting of the India Consortium*

The following announcement was issued today at the World Bank's European Office in Paris :

The Consortium of Governments and institutions interested in development assistance to India met in Paris on June 13 and 14, 1972, under the Chairmanship of the World Bank. The meeting was attended by representatives of Governments of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. Also present were representatives of the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The Government of India was represented by a delegation led by Dr. I. G. Patel, Secretary to the Government of India (Economic Affairs).

The meeting reviewed the progress of economic development in India and considered prospects and foreign assistance requirements for the balance of India's Fourth Five Year Plan, which ends on March 31, 1974.

The meeting commended the Government of India for its economic performance during a particularly difficult year, noting that the Indian economy continued to grow in 1971-72. They welcomed the continuing satisfactory rate of growth in agriculture, which had further strengthened India's foodgrain position, and the buoyancy of Indian exports, which grew by 10 per cent in 1971-72, nearly three times the annual rate during the decade of the 1960's. The growing share of engineering goods in exports was found to be especially encouraging. Several members expressed their satisfaction with the renewed impetus of the family planning programme. Members expressed disap-

pointment at the slow rate of growth in industrial production, but noted that problems were concentrated principally in a few industries.

They noted the steps being taken by the Government of India to accelerate industrial growth and emphasised the need to maintain the expansion of exports. They particularly appreciated the steps taken in the 1972-73 budget towards the achievement of a very substantial increase in public savings. The Consortium noted with satisfaction the concern for combining economic growth with social justice which characterizes Indian thinking on the development of the Fifth Five-Year Plan.

It was agreed that India needs substantial new commitments of aid in support of the Government's efforts to increase the pace of economic progress. Members noted that, for the year which began April 1, 1972, commitments of non-project assistance, including debt relief, of about US \$700 million and of project assistance of about US \$550 million would be necessary to prevent a sharp decline in the transfer of resources to India.

Most members indicated the contribution they would be able to make, subject to necessary approval, toward these goals. Other members expected to be able to do so later in the year and gave their support to the overall programme.

Dr. H. C. Coombs, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, in his capacity as a Special Consultant to the Consortium presented a report on the continued provision of debt relief to India. Members felt that these proposals needed further consideration in their capitals and agreed to discuss the matter again at another meeting of the Consortium in about a month's time.

REORGANISATION SCHEME OF STATE BANK

101. SHRI K. B. CHETTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state whether any scheme for the reorganisation of the State Bank of India for improving the service conditions of its employees is under consideration of Government and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : No reorganisation scheme