

(b) if so, what are the details of its composition and functions ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
(SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Composition and functions of the India Tourism Hotel Corporation

India Tourism Hotel Corporation has been set up with effect from the 21st January, 1965 with an equity capital of Rs. 4 crores. The ratio of equity and loans being 1 : 1, this Corporation would be in a position to get a loan of Rs. 4 crores from Government. With this total investment of Rs. 8 crores this Corporation proposes to put up 17 hotels having 2,400 rooms at 13 places of tourist interest. These hotels will either be run by the Corporation or will be given to hoteliers on lease for operation.

2. As regards the composition of the Corporation, it will have a Chairman, a Managing Director, a Board of Directors and the supporting staff. The appointments to various offices have yet to be finalised.

COLLABORATION WITH F.A.O. FOR RICE RESEARCH

*90. SHRI Y. A. REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India are seeking the collaboration of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations for a break through in her rice research so as to evolve a variety of rice that will stand high fertilisation and will thus help substantial increase in the out-turn of rice; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM) :

(a) and (b) A Collaborative Project between Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Food and Agriculture Organisation was initiated in 1950 to evolve fertiliser responsive rice varieties and the same is still being continued.

For a further break-through in rice research it is proposed to start another All-India Co-ordinated scheme with the collaboration of the Rockefeller Foundation.

SHORTAGE OF PILOTS IN AIR-INDIA

92. SHRI M. C. SHAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of pilots in Air-India; and

(b) if so, what are the steps taken to remove this shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI N. KANUNGO) : (a) The number of pilots qualified as Commanders is not adequate at present.

(b) The training programme for Commanders and First Officers has been intensified. To meet the anticipated requirements of pilots 14 additional pilots have been recruited by Air-India from the Indian Airlines and 3 from other sources and their training commenced on 1st February 1965. Arrangements have also been made for the recruitment of 2 further batches of 17 pilots each during the year 1965-66.

FERTILIZER MANUFACTURING PLANT

93. SHRI M. C. SHAH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Municipal Corporation of Ahmedabad has requested the Central Government to supply one mechanical