

Action taken by CCI on steep hikes in airfares

2434. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Competition Commission of India (CCI) is looking into the issues of steep hike in fares during festival seasons and summer vacations by airlines, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government proposes to impose penalty on airlines found to be involved in air fare cartelisation during the ensuing Diwali season, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Competition Commission of India (CCI), *suomoto*, instituted a case on allegations that airlines had raised fares together around Diwali season of 2010. The case was closed in January, 2012 due to lack of evidence of anti-competitive practices. However, in a *suomoto* case (number 03/2015) regarding cartelisation in passenger fares by airlines, CCI has directed an investigation by the Director General, CCI. This case, though, does not pertain to festive season hike.

Regulatory authority for mutual benefit funds

2435. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) who is Regulatory and Registering Authority for Mutual Benefit Funds in India;

(b) whether Ex-servicemen Mutual Benefit Fund, 152, Shivnath Shastri Road, P.O. Harinavi, South 24 Parganas, Kolkata-700148 is a duly registered body;

(c) if so, the details of profile of the said Mutual Fund; and

(d) if not, what action Government is going to take to protect the interests of the stakeholders and beneficiaries of the Fund and what actions are being initiated against the promoters of the fund?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) 'Nidhi Companies' which are also known as Mutual Benefit Societies/Funds are regulated under Section 406 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with NIDHI Rules, 2014. These companies are registered with the Registrar of Companies within whose jurisdiction their registered office is situated.

(b) No company is registered under the Companies Act, 1956/2013, by the name Ex-servicemen Mutual Benefit Fund in Kolkata nor is an LLP registered under the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008, by this name.

(c) and (d) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Location of foreign firms in the country

2436. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign firms functioning in the country;

(b) whether Ministry has ever observed that 91 per cent of all foreign firms in India are located in just five States;

(c) whether it is also a fact that undivided Andhra Pradesh has one of the poorly located foreign firms;

(d) whether it is also a fact that after bifurcation, the residency State of Andhra Pradesh is almost at the bottom of the table as far as having foreign firms are concerned; and

(e) if so, how the Ministry would help Andhra Pradesh in getting foreign firms as it has geographical, manpower and other advantages?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):
(a) to (d) As on 6th August, 2015, there were 3,309 foreign companies functioning in the country. About 91 per cent of all these foreign companies have their registered addresses in states of Delhi, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Haryana and Tamil Nadu. In undivided Andhra Pradesh, 73 foreign companies were active. Of these, 9 foreign companies have registered addresses in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(e) The Ministry of Corporate Affairs does not deal with decisions relating to location of companies.

Investigation in complaint against DDCA

2437. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Serious Fraud Investigating Office (SFIO) has received any complaint regarding Delhi District Cricket Association (DDCA); and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the action taken by SFIO in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) SFIO had forwarded a complaint made by Shri N.C Bakshi, regarding irregularities and