

[17 August, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) and (d) Constant efforts are made by the PSU airlines to improve and upgrade their services to the satisfaction of the customers. Some of these steps include (i) Dry lease of aircrafts to meet the present shortage of capacity (ii) Code Share agreement and joint ventures with other airlines to expand market reach (iii) Introduction of customer friendly schedules, focus on on-time performance (iv) Computerisation of Reservations and check-in procedures (v) Special attention given to unaccompanied minors, aged passengers, wheel chair cases etc. (vi) Setting up of Task Forces and Committees to look into aspects of improving services (vii) Holding of customer relation skill programme for the staff to enhance their awareness of customer need.

Development of airports in Madhya Pradesh

†1324. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of airports for which land has been provided by Madhya Pradesh Government to Airports Authority of India;

(b) whether the development works have been completed there; and

(c) if not, the present status of the development work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) State Government of Madhya Pradesh has provided land for development of the Khajuraho airport (355 acres), Jabalpur (37 acres) and Indore (25 acres).

(b) and (c) The development work *i.e.*, extension of runway of Jabalpur and Indore have already been completed. Runway extension work at Khajuraho was scheduled to be completed in June, 2004. However, the progress at Khajuraho is delayed on account of the action to be undertaken on the part of the State Government for diversion of canals, construction of approach link roads and cutting of hillocks etc.

White paper on Open Air Policy

1325. SHRI E. M. SUDARSANA NAT CHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating "Open Air Policy" in the globalisation scenario,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.