

Shri Raj Bahadur: They operate mostly in the eastern parts of the country, say, Assam. They are also given permission to fly to foreign countries or in foreign countries, but that is under the specific permission of permit of the Director-General of Civil Aviation.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know the amount of freight which has been earned by the non-scheduled air services plying between Calcutta and the stations in Assam during the last year?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I do not think this question arises out of the main question, and I would like to have notice of this question.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Is it a fact that often the non-scheduled air services of Assam actually take on hire the IAC planes and, if so, is it a fact that the Government are allowing them to do so in spite of the fact that we ourselves may need the planes?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am not aware of any such instance. I presume that it may happen sometimes. Where we do not have the necessary crew to fly the particular aircraft, it might have happened. Nevertheless, it is obvious that the fleet of aircraft with the IAC is limited and so also the crew.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether any foreign companies are running the non-scheduled air services through India and, if so, what is the present position?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think all companies, scheduled or non-scheduled, have to be registered in India in that sense that no foreign companies will ply in India on a non-scheduled air service.

Shri Kaaliwal: The hon. Minister has said that there has been a large increase in the non-scheduled air services in Assam.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have not said that.

Shri Kaaliwal: May I know whether any subsidy is given to those air services?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No subsidy is given.

Tourist Bureaus

*1689. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the requisites laid down for opening tourist bureaus; and

(b) whether any, and if so, the name of the centre to be opened in Karnataka?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Tourist

Bureaus are to be opened by the State Governments at places usually visited by Indian and foreign tourists and where there are no Government of India Tourist offices.

(b) This will be known after the Government of the proposed new State of Karnataka have had to consider this question.

Shri Wodeyar: May I know whether the Government have called for information regarding famous places of tourist importance and interest in Karnataka from the Mysore State?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We have got complete information.

Shri Thimmaiah: May I know how many tourist offices exist, at the present time, in Karnataka?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): There is one Government of India Tourist Office in Bangalore.

Shri Madiah Gowda: May I know why Bijapur, which is famous for its historic and architectural importance is not made a tourist centre in the north?

Shri Alagesan: It is, of course, a place of tourist importance. But, we do not have a tourist office there. That is the difficulty. If the State Government comes forward to open a tourist bureau in that place, we will consider the question of giving financial assistance.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know in what proportion to increase in the tourist traffic tourist bureaus have been opened up?

Shri Alagesan: I do not quite follow the question.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know the volume of traffic.

Shri Alagesan: Every tourist office handles not only foreign tourist, but also Indians who want to travel. They make enquiries and supply the tourists with the necessary information and literature.

Mr. Speaker: The question relates purely to Mysore or Karnataka.

Sugauli Sugar Works

*1690. **Shri Bibhuti Misra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bihar Government have recommended to the Central Government for taking over the management of Sugauli Sugar Works (Champaran-Bihar); and

(b) if so, the decision of the Central Government thereon?