

(a) the number of airlines based in the United States fly to India and the frequency of their flights;

(b) the frequency of Air India's flights to the United States;

(c) whether the U.S. Government has refused to concede additional landing rights to Air India in the United States, particularly in Washington DC, Chicago, Atlanta and Houston;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government would consider imposing ceiling on U.S. flights to India to maintain parity; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) At present, Delta Airlines, Tower Airlines and United Airlines of U.S.A. are operating flights to India with seven, two and fourteen frequencies a week respectively.

(b) Air India is presently operating seven services a week to U.S.A.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Memorandum of Understanding signed between India and U.S.A. on 2.12.1995 permits Air India to serve Chicago and four additional points of choice in the U.S. for direct operations and another five additional points of choice for operations under Co-operative Services Arrangement.

(e) and (f) The above M.O.U. also provides that North West Airlines of U.S.A. will not be allowed entry upto January, 1997 and no other U.S. airline will start direct operations to India until 1st November, 1998.

Scheme for Increasing Tourism Traffic

4187. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to attract more foreign tourists to India during the next five years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The Government is making continuous efforts to attract more foreign tourists to the country through improvement of infrastructural facilities, strengthening of publicity and marketing efforts in the overseas markets and development of human resources for the sector.

Basic Amenities at International/Domestic Airports

4188. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide basic amenities at all International and domestic Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The Airports Authority of India (AAI) have already provided all basic passenger amenities at its international and domestic airports from where scheduled commercial services operate. Upgradation/improvement of facilities is a constant process, keeping in view the need for additional facilities and availability of financial resources.

Delhi Co-operative Housing Finance Corporation Ltd.

4189. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Co-operative Housing Finance Cooperation Ltd. has not placed the annual reports for the past 5 years on the Table of the House;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether there are cases of misuse of funds in the Corporation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) and (b) The Registrar, Co-operative Societies of National Capital Territory of Delhi has reported that there is no provision in the Delhi Co-operative Societies Act, 1972 and the Rules framed thereunder for laying the Annual Reports of the Delhi Co-operative Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. (DCHFCL) on the Table of the House. It has also been informed that the Annual Report of the Delhi Co-operative Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. is circulated amongst the members of the Corporation in its General Body Meeting as per Sector 29 of the Delhi Co-operative Societies Act, 1972.

(c) and (d) As per information furnished by the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, National Capital Territory of Delhi, there are no cases of misuse of funds in the Corporation.

International bid for ticketing

4190. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have invited international bids for ticketing arrangements for Government officials travelling abroad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) its impact on the business of the Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.