

**Development of Pichaiyaram Killai  
Tourist complex near Chidambaram  
(Tamil Nadu)**

6305. SHRI A. MURUGESAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Centre to develop Pichaiyaram Killai tourist complex near Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu, in view of its immense potential for attracting tourists ;

(b) the programmes, if any, for developing boating facilities, building roads and constructing tourist homes so as to make the complex a tourist paradise ; and

(c) the expenditure proposed to be incurred by the Central Government on the project ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) : (a) and (b) : Although it is appreciated that Pichaiyaram Killai in Tamil Nadu may hold potential for tourism development, there is no proposal at present in the Central Sector to develop facilities at this place due to constraint on resources and other priorities.

(c) Does not arise.

**Export of Dried Tapioca**

6306. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to export dried tapioca, which is a starch yielding product, produced from the hill side of Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : Yes, Sir.

**Air Service to and from Ratnagiri  
(Maharashtra)**

6307. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the amount that has been spent on construction of airstrip at Ratnagiri in Maharashtra and when this work of construction was completed ;

(b) for what purpose this airstrip has been constructed and whether the purpose has been achieved ;

(c) whether at any time there was a proposal to operate Bombay-Ratnagiri-Goa or Bombay-Kolhapur-Ratnagiri air service and whether the proposal has been accepted or rejected or is still under consideration ; and

(d) whether Government propose to start air service to and from Ratnagiri and if so, when and what steps Government have taken so far in this connection and if not, the difficulties experienced by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK) : (a) and (b) : The aerodrome at Ratnagiri was constructed by the Government of Maharashtra. Particulars of the cost of construction, date of completion and the purpose for which it was constructed are being ascertained from the Government of Maharashtra and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d) : Indian Airlines had not made any such proposal. An application has been received from a private operator, for a permit to operate a non-scheduled air service to Kolhapur, Ratnagiri, Nasik, Poona and Surat with a "Beechcraft" type of aircraft. The application is under consideration.

**Relations Between G.I.C. and their Agents**

6308. SHRI R.K. MHALGI : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the relations between nationalised General Insurance Companies and their licensed agents for canvassing business, were not changed since nationalisation of General Insurance Companies ;

(b) whether from 1st July, 1977 Limited companies having paid up share capital of Rs. 10 lacs or more have been asked to submit their insurance business, directly to the insurance companies ;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware of the fact that the insurance agents have been hard hit by this decision ; and

(d) if so, whether Government are reconsidering this decision in the light of the requests made by insurance agents ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL) (a) No, Sir.