

(c) to (e). The State authorities and the Intelligence Agencies keep due vigilance against the activities of foreigners in the country. The stay and conduct of the foreigners in the country is also regulated by the Foreigners Act, 1946, Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 and connected Rules.

**Airbus Base and Technical Operation Centre
at Calcutta**

5758. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not having the 757 newly purchased Air Bus Base and technical operation Centre at Calcutta; and

(b) whether it is proposed to be reviewed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINTSTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) and (b). On technical and operational considerations Delhi is considered the best location for the Boeing 757 aircraft base. There is no proposal to review this decision.

Damage to Forest Trees in the Hills

5759. SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is widespread damage to forest trees such as pines in the hills through excessive pine needle loss due to air pollution;

(b) if so, the details of any studies conducted so far and corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken;

(c) whether there has been unprcedented and dangerous falls in percentage of forest cover from 30% to 10% as per satellite studies; and

(d) if so, details thereof and remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) and (b). No study about the damage to forest trees

in the hills due to air-pollution has been undertaken so far.

(c) and (d). The data gathered by the National Remote Sensing Agency indicate a reduction in the forest area from 55.1709 million hectares in 1972/75 to 46.2873 million hectares in 1980/82. This assessment is being verified with reference to ground truth. Various steps are being taken for the conservation of existing forests and the afforestation of degraded forests and wastelands.

**Infrastructural Facilities for Providing
Airstrip at Hubli**

5760. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka have agreed to provide all infrastructural facilities for providing airstrip at Hubli; and

(b) since Hubli is very far from Bangalore and is a Central place for Northern Karnataka, whether Government will sanction airstrip to Hubli and put Hubli in the airmap of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Vayudoot plan to operate to Hubli after the airport has been constructed and the requisite infrastructural facilities have been developed.

**"Water Pollution Caused by Gwalior
Rayons, Mavoor in Kerala"**

5761. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gwalior Rayons, Mavoor in Kerala is causing water pollution resulting in serious health hazard to people in that area; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to strictly enforce the anti-pollution measures ?