

[*Translation*]

Development of Buxar Railway Junction

1737. SHRI TEJ NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop the Buxar Railway Junction in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Development of stations is a continuous process and the same is done as per norms, based on volume of traffic dealt with, subject to availability of funds etc. Work of extension of shed over Down Platform, at a cost of Rs. 2.34 lakh at Buxar has already been taken up.

(c) Does not arise.

Promotion of Tourism in Bundelkhand Division

1738. SHRI V. N. SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have formulated any central plan for the coordinated development of tourist centres located in the Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the results of efforts made in the past in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Formulation of plan for development of tourist centres (and tourism infrastructure therein is primarily the the responsibility of the concerned State

Governments. However, the Central Government extends some financial assistance in respect of specific proposals received from the State Governments.

In respect of Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, the Central Department of Tourism has extended financial assistance for the development of tourism infrastructure at Kalinjar, Auriya, Jhansi, Khatwah, Panna, Datia and Orcha.

[*English*]

ITDC Hotel Projects in Kerala

1739. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested to the Union Government for setting up of any project of Star Hotels under the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHARAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Tourism in Arunachal Pradesh

1740. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan is under consideration of the Government for the development of Tourism in Arunachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Central Department of Tourism, however, extends some financial assistance for the development of tourism infrastructure to the State Governments. Accordingly, discussions have been held with the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh and projects for Central assistance during 1991-92 have been identified for development of tourism infrastructural facilities.

Priority allotted to Trains of Western Railway

1741. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether local trains on suburban section of Western Railway at Virar and other stations are given lowest priority in clearance against fast running (long distance) trains, and the local commuters get late in reaching to their working places as a result thereof;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to revise this system and give first priority in clearance of local trains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir, In fact, local trains are given priority over long distance trains.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Increase in Passengers on Cochin-Bombay Sector

1742. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the flights in Cochin-

Bombay Sector in view of heavy increase in passengers traffic there;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide modern aircraft with higher passenger capacity in this sector in order to meet the passengers traffic; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The existing runway at Cochin is not suitable for operation of A-300/A-320 type of aircraft available in the fleet of Indian Airlines.

Conversion of Line between Bangarpet and Kolar Gold Fields

1743. SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRI-YAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway line between Bangarpet and Kolar Gold Fields in Karnataka is very old;

(b) whether the Union Government have received representations from the State Government in this regard, and

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The project was not found to be financially remunerative and not considered for being taken up.

Import of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

1744. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of crude petroleum and petroleum products imported during 1990-91;