

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There are 1197 islands including islets, reefs and isolated rocks under the Indian Jurisdiction in the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea and Lakshadweep sea.

(b) Information is being collected.

(c) All the 48 inhabited islands under the administrative control of Andaman and Nicobar Administration and Lakshadweep Administration have postal, educational and medical facilities.

(d) The scheme of the Department of Tourism include extension of financial assistance to the two administrations of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands to augment and strengthen infrastructure, marketing and publicity in selected overseas market.

Foreign Tourists Visiting Madras

8862 SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign tourists visiting Madras by Air has shown an increase of 13.19 per cent during the last year;

(b) if so, the increased noticed in the number of tourists landed upto December 1991 as compared to last year;

(c) whether all facilities are being provided to the foreign tourists; and

(d) If not, the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The percentage increase in the foreign tourists who disem-

barked at Madras Airport during 1990 and 1991 were 9.5 percent and 13.4 percent respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Berlin Tourist Fair

8863. PROF. MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the tourist fair organised in Berlin;;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of persons sent by the Government to participate in the fair; and

(c) the criteria adopted in selecting the persons for this fair?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). International Tourism Bourse (ITB) is held every year in Berlin and is the largest tourism fair in the world, thus very significant for promotion and transaction of tourism business. Director General (Tourism) was the only officer deputed by the Ministry of Tourism to lead the Indian delegation comprising members of the hotel and travel industry and representatives of some of the State Governments.

Digital transmission Network in Kerala

8864 SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: