

accordance with the career progression scheme applicable in Indian Airlines.

(e) The Absorption Committee has completed the assigned task of absorption of Vayudoot employees in other organisations.

[English]

Labour Courts

2963. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of labour courts alongwith their locations functioning in Assam;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up such courts in every district of the State in view of the huge labour force in the State; and

(c) if so, by when these courts are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected from Government of Assam and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Under Invoicing Shipping Bills

2964. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of exporting companies in collusion with custom officials at Bombay's Nhava Sheva port and clearing agents have been swindling crores of rupees by under invoicing shipping bills;

(b) if so, the facts, and details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take action against custom officials involved in this racket; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further steps the Government propose to take to put a check on such rackets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b). No case of under invoicing of Shipping Bills has come to notice. However, 111 exporters at Bombay and Nhava Sheva recently were found to have misdeclared export goods resulting in detection of duty evasion estimated to the tune of Rs. 55 crores (approximately) so far. An amount of Rs.13.3 crores of Customs duty has been voluntarily paid by some of the exporters (subject to realisation of cheques and drafts).

(c) and (d). 5 Customs Officers suspected to be involved have been placed under suspension. Further action against the guilty officers will be taken as per law. As regards check on recurrence of such frauds, Customs officers have been instructed to be more

vigilant. Besides, procedural changes for better control and coordination for the purpose of processing of Shipping Bills have also been made.

Operation of Pawan Hans

2965. DR. K.D.JESWANI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pawan Hans Ltd. is going to expand its operations; and

(b) if so, the details of the area where the expanded services likely to be operated?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pawan Hans has recently introduced helicopter service linking Itanagar to Guwahati and Dibrugarh four times a week.

Setting up Export Promotion Industrial Parks

2966. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have implemented any centrally sponsored scheme to set up Export Promotion Industrial Parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposals from the State Governments for setting up of such parks in their respective States;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government have approved any proposal in this regard, till-date;

(f) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(g) the time by which the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A scheme has been formulated to assist State Governments in establishing Export Promotion Industrial Parks (EPIPs) with requisite infrastructure. 75% of the capital expenditure thereon will be met by the Centre upto a limit of Rs.10 crores in each case. In addition, a maintenance grant equivalent to 2% of the export turnover of each unit would be made available to the State Governments for a period of 5 years from the date of commercial production.

(c) to (g). 16 proposals have been approved. One more proposal has been received from Govt. of Assam on 11.12.95 and will be duly considered. The details of these proposals are given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of State Govt.	Location of EPIP	Project Cost (excluding cost of land)
1.	Punjab	Dhandari Kalan, Distt. Ludhiana.	Rs.18.51 crores
2.	Maharashtra	Ambarnath, Distt. Thane.	Rs.14.82 crores
3.	Himachal Pradesh	Baddi, Distt. Solan.	Rs.9.99 crores
4.	Rajasthan	Sitapura, Distt. Jaipur.	Rs.16.62 crores
5.	Karnataka	Hoodi, Distt. Bangalore.	Rs.15.01 crores
6.	Kerala	Kakkanad, Distt. Ernakulam.	Rs.19.57 crores
7.	Haryana	Kundli, Distt. Sonapat.	Rs.14.85 crores
8.	Uttar Pradesh	Surajpur, Distt. Ghaziabad.	Rs.18.50 crores
9.	Tamil Nadu	Gummidipoondi, Distt. Chengai-MGR	Rs.14.62 crores
10.	Andhra Pradesh	Pashamylaram, Distt. Medak.	Rs.13.95 crores
11.	Gujarat	Savli, Distt. Baroda.	Rs.16.00 crores
12.	Bihar	Hajipur, Distt. Vaishali.	Rs.14.11 crores
13.	West Bengal	Durgapur, Distt. Burdwan.	Rs.14.12 crores
14.	Meghalaya	Byrnihat, Distt. Ribhoi.	Rs.13.00 crores
15.	Madhya Pradesh	Siya, Distt. Dewas.	Rs.13.64 crores
16.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar, Distt. Khurda.	Rs.15.25 crores
17.	Assam	Amingaon, Distt. Kamrup	Rs.14.62 crores

[Translation]

Accounts of Indian Citizens Abroad

2927. SHRI LALL BABU RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a resident Indian citizen can have a saving account in any bank situated in a foreign country; and

(b) if so, the formalities required to be fulfilled and the procedure required to be followed for the operation of such account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL) : (a) Persons who have come or returned to India after a minimum continuous stay of year abroad as persons resident outside India have been granted general permission to continue their existing bank accounts or open new bank accounts abroad without Reserve Bank permission provided the funds held in the bank accounts were acquired by such persons otherwise than in contravention of the provisions of FERA, 1973 while they were residents outside India. If their stay abroad is for a period less than one year and persons resident in India who have never gone abroad cannot open bank a/c. abroad without prior approval of Reserve Bank. Such permission to retain/open bank account abroad is granted on the merit of each case. Further, residents holding sizeable foreign currency shares/securities acquired through inheritance etc. are also allowed to maintain such foreign currency accounts to facilitate collection of interest/dividend.

(b) The account holder will have to apply to Central Office of Reserve Bank of India mentioning the purpose for which he wants to open the bank account abroad together with necessary documents.

[English]

Assistance for Curbing Terrorist Activity

2968. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has approached the Finance Commission/Union Government for assistance for curbing terrorist activities in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when the request was made by the State Government; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c). Late Shri Chiman Bhai Patel, Ex-Chief Minister of Gujarat, in his speech before the Tenth Finance Commission during his visit to the State of Gujarat requested for an additional assistance of Rs.150 crores, on the ground that Gujarat, though it deserves a special attention even among the border States of the country, was not likely to get adequate share out of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Border Area Development Programme. No other request of the State Government was received. The Tenth Finance Commission has not recommended any grant to Gujarat on this account.