

following projects in Haryana in consultation with the State Government for Central Financial assistance during 1997-98 :-

Sl. No.	Project
1.	Expansion of facilities at Birdie Tourist Complex, Faridabad.
2.	Expansion of Accommodation at Rai.
3.	Health Resort at Badkal
4.	Upgradation of Tiliar Lake
5.	Tourist Complex at Damdama
6.	Surajkund Crafts Mela
7.	Tourist facilities at Kalesar
8.	Kartik Festival
9.	Kurukshetra Festival
10.	Exterior Development of Raja Nahar Singh Ballabgarh Fort.

[English]

#### Air Tickets for Leh

2976. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA :  
SHRI GHULAM MOHD. MIR MAGANI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that air tickets for Leh bound air passengers are being sold by touts in connivance with Indian Airlines staffs manning the various booking counters and centre space control for a commission anything between Rs. 500/- to Rs. 1000/-;

(b) whether it is also a fact that because of corruptions in the I.A., the Leh bound plans usually run half empty while the passengers do not get tickets at the various counters of I.A.;

(c) whether a list containing number of passengers travelled on each flight separately on the Delhi Leh sector for the months of March, April, May, June and July 1997 (till date) be place on the table of the house; and

(d) the steps taken by the I.A. authorities to stop black marketing of tickets on the I.A. routes in the country also be placed on the table of the House ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The number of passengers who travelled on Indian Airlines flights on Delhi-Leh sector were as under :-

Month	No. of flights	No. of passengers
March'97	15	1189
April'97	16	1217
May'97	17	1369
June'97	28	2163
July'97	33	2758

(d) Indian Airlines has taken preventive measures like assigning dedicated officers for pre-flight checks, post flight checks by Airport Manager, Delhi, review of cancellation procedure and deputation of an officer at Delhi Airport to supervise checking of flights to Leh route.

#### Oil Companies

2977. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to privatise the marketing set up of oil companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether oil companies are not meeting the marketing requirements of rural population;

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to tackle this problem;

(e) whether the Government propose to review the rural marketing aspect of the functions of oil companies; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Petrol and Diesel are being supplied to the consumers through the vast network of retail outlets all over the country including rural areas and National/State Highways. The oil marketing companies carry out periodical surveys to identify the economically viable locations for putting up retail outlets and LPG distributorships. The proposals are included in the Marketing Plans and retail network is developed accordingly by the oil companies. In view of the growing demand for LPG in the rural areas

of the country, the Government has taken a decision recently—(i) to cover all urban locations with population of 10,000 and above by including potential of the adjoining villages falling within a radius of 15 kms.; (ii) to cover all feasible urban locations having a population of 5000 and above by taking into account the potential of the adjoining villages within 15 Kms. radius; (iii) to include potential villages having a population of 10,000 and above taking into account the potential of adjoining village within 15 km. radius; and (iv) to open LPG distributorship in feasible rural locations contiguous to the towns having a population of one lakh and above. Retail outlets are being provided all over including rural areas to meet the demand from all areas including rural areas.

[Translation]

#### Floods in UP

2978. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :  
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the names of States in North India which are badly affected due to floods;
- (b) the number of people died and rendered homeless due to floods in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) whether the Union Government have formulated any scheme to check the damage caused by floods in Northern Bihar and the Nepal border;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide relief to the next kith and kin of those died, rendered homeless and affected other-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) Some parts of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh in Northern India have been affected by floods during the Southwest Monsoon of 1997.

(b) Due to recent floods in Uttar Pradesh 41 human lives were lost, 959 houses were damaged and a population of 2.47 lakhs including those rendered homeless were affected.

(c) and (d) Flood Management is a state subject and as such investigation, planning and execution of flood management schemes are primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Ganga Flood Control

Commission (GFCC) of Central Government has prepared comprehensive master plans for flood management for all the rivers of North Bihar and sent to Government of Bihar for formulating detailed schemes and their implementation. The Union Government have been rendering financial assistance to Government of Bihar for flood proofing schemes, critical anti erosion schemes and maintenance of flood protection works of Kosi project under Central Sector during 8th Plan which are proposed to be continued during 9th Plan also.

Central Government is also holding negotiations with His Majesty's Government of Nepal regarding construction of storage reservoirs and embankments on common rivers which would provide flood control benefit to Bihar and the Nepal border. Extending embankments on Lalbakeya, Kamla, Bagmati and Khando rivers in to Nepal territory are under active consideration, Both countries have also decided to take up investigations for Sapta Kosi High Dam in Nepal.

(e) In order to enable the State Government to carry out immediate rescue and relief measures in the areas affected by flood, State Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) has been constituted for each State with 75% contribution by Central Government. Two instalments of central share of Calamity Relief Fund have been released to all State Governments. An amount of Rs. 49.51 crore has been released to Uttar Pradesh and an amount of Rs. 20.56 crore has been released to Bihar during 1997-98.

[English]

#### Wet Leasing System from Caribjet

2979. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the former Managing Director (Capt. D.S. Mathur) and Mr. Michael Mascarenhas, the then Commercial Director of Air India started Wet Leasing System of Aircraft from Caribjet Co. ignoring all technical aspects raised by technical personnel and viability by executive authorities with an intention to rub off public money;
- (b) if so, whether the total loss of Rs. 160 crores in operation of aircraft has resulted on this account;
- (c) whether the Government propose to conduct a CBI enquiry in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps the Government propose to take