113 Written Answers

India's Troop Commitment to Somalia

8018. SHRI GURUDAŞ KAMAT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to scale down their troop commitment under UN bagle to Somalia;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether an advance Indian team has submitted its recommendation; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-ISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d). The Government of India have received a request from the United Nations for contributing troops to the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM-II). No decision about India's participation has been taken so far. The recommendations submitted by the team sent to Somalia are under consideration of the Government. Earlier, India has contributed two naval ships to join international effort for establishing a environment for humanitarian relief operations in Somalia in pursuance of SCR 794.

Touts at Airports

8019. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN: SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI: DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the activities of touts at major airports;

(b) the number of complaints received in this regard during the last one year; and

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

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

(b) The information is being collected.

(c) It is the constant endeavour of the concerned authorities to prevent touts from harassing passengers. At each international airports, Committee under the Deputy Commissioner/Superintendent of Police has been set up to curb this menace. Incidents reported to the police are investigated and follow-up action taken.

[Translation]

Alleged Malpractices in I.T.D.C.

8020. SHRI ANAND RAINA MAURYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry pertaining to keeping a large amount of foreign exchange, large scale bungling in accounts, assigning contract and selling imported items in unlawful manner is pending for a long time against seven senior officers of the India Tourism Development Corportion;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay in the matter,

(c) whether the Government propose to dispose of this case expeditiously:

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THEMINISTEROF CIVIL AVIATION AND

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TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No such enquiry is pencling with ITDC Management against seven senior officers.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

[English]

Compensation to Immigrant Workers

8021. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN' Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of immigrant workers who met with accidents while on duty abroad and paid compensation during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) the number of cases that are pending with Government during this period, countrywise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIN-ISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Indian Missions have standing instructions to liaise with host governments to assist Indian nationals in having their compensation claims settled without delay in case of any difficulty. All such cases are not however reported to the Indian Mission concerned. Whenever Mission is asked for assistance in case of delay or denial of compensation to an Indian national, the Mission takes the matterup with the concerned authorities of the host government or the employer for resolution of the problem.

Paucity of Spares in Air India

8022. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA; SHRIATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

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

(a) whether the Air India management had set up a Committee to probe into the acute paucity of spares and other rotable aircraft maintenance items and was assigned the task to carry outphysical inventory of spares for their availability and movement for the past eight years;

(b) if so, its findings and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the Committee found that spares worth rupees 11 crores were untraceable and that spares and maintenance items worth overrupees 20 crores had not been used for over two years;

(d) if so, the facts and action taken in this regard; and

(e) the new norms fixed in this regard and the action taken against those found guilty?

THEMINISTEROFCIVILAVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). The final report of the Committee is awaited.

Spares of Air India and Indian Airlines

8023. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of spare parts found missing from the Air India and the Indian Airlines during the last twelve months;

(b) the details thereof

(c) whether any investigations were made into the missing items: