

Improvement of Civil Aviation Network

1847. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes proposed to be introduced for the development of Civil Aviation network in Rajasthan and Orissa; and

(b) the amount earmarked therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Airports Authority of India has allocated Rs. 17.49 crores in Budget Estimates of 1996-97 for upgradation of Jaipur, Jodhpur and Udaipur airports and construction of a new airport at Ajmer in Rajasthan and Rs. 4.12 crores for upgradation of Bhubaneswar airport in Orissa.

Ballot System

1848. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have introduced the ballot system for democratisation of the trade unions;

(b) if so, its present status; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to complete the ballot system in all sectors of Indian Trade Unions?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The Government has been discussing the proposal for introducing Secret Ballot for verification of the members of Trade Unions in consultation with various Central Trade Unions, Employees Organisations and State Governments. It is proposed to place the issue before the Standing Labour Committee and the Indian Labour Conference at their next meeting to evolve a consensus approval.

Press Council of India

1849. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Press Council of India has recently instructed journalists not to record anyone's conversation of talks over telephone without prior permission of the party concerned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Press Council has also formulated a code of ethics.

(d) if so, the main guidelines updated by the Press Council of India; and

(e) the extent to which these guidelines are adhered to?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The PCI in its meeting held at Bangalore on the 28th June, 1996 has updated the compilation of the guidelines principles developed since 1996. A list of subjects on which the guidelines have been updated by the council is given in the attached statement.

(e) The guidelines and other pronouncements of the Council do not carry any penal sanctions but the Press Council can issue warning, admonition and censure. These are, however, morally binding and the Press has, by the large, adhered to and abided by the advice of the Press Council.

STATEMENT

The main guidelines updated by the Council are on the following subjects :

1. Accuracy and fairness;
2. Pre-publication verification;
3. Caution against defamatory writings;
4. Parameters of the right of the Press to comment on the acts and conduct of public official;
5. Right to privacy;
6. Recording interviews and phone conversation;
7. Conjecture, comment and fact;
8. Newspapers to eschew suggestive guilt;
9. Corrections;
10. Right of Reply;
11. Letters to Editor;
12. Obscenity and vulgarity to be eschewed;
13. Violence not to be glorified;
14. Glorification/encouragement of social evils to be eschewed;
15. Covering communal disputes/clashes;
16. Headings not to be sensational/provocative and must justify the matter printed under them;
17. Caste community or religion references;
18. Reporting on natural calamities;
19. Paramount national interest;