

(a) and (b). There is no proposal to airlink Balurghat (West Dimajpur) in the first phase of the expansion plans of Vayudoot. Vayudoot has, however, been asked to undertake a traffic survey of this station. Service to Balurghat would, however, be considered in the subsequent phase of Vayudoot expansion subject to economic viability of operations, development of infra-structure and availability of suitable aircraft capacity.

Incentives to the Staff of Forest Department

6772. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the incentives given to the staff in the Forest Department for getting offenders committed and convicted for forest offences, State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to give an incentive equivalent between 5% and 10% of the apprehended forest produce to the staff;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures being taken to ensure uniformity of incentives in all the States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) Under the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, State Governments are empowered to regulate the rewards paid to officers and informers out of the proceeds of fines and confiscations under the Act.

(b) to (d). In its meeting held on 1st March, 1984, the Central Board of Forestry recommended that incentives should be provided to forest personnel for detection and successful prosecution of forest offences, which could take the shape of monetary awards or by way of grant of increments, accelerated promotions, etc. While the State Government of Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka have decided to give 10% of the value of seized material as reward, subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 1000 and Rs. 4000 respectively, the other State Governments have not intimated their decision so far.

Intensive Research to Discover Lost Cities

6773. PROF. P. J. KURIEN :
SHRI HARIHAR SOREN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched a scheme under which intensive search has been undertaken in the East and West Coast of Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal to discover the lost cities;

(b) if so, what are lost cities for which such drive has been launched;

(c) the amount spent on this programme so far; and

(d) the progress made in the discovery ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). The Department of Science and Technology has sanctioned in October, 1984 a research project entitled "Marine Archeological Studies in Indian Waters" being undertaken at the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa for a period of three years at a total cost Rs. 11.27 lacs. The scientists involved in the project will undertake survey and under-water excavation of submerged port installations at Dwarik, prospecting for shipwrecks and under-water photography, etc at Goa and Kaveripattanam as well as deep sea prospecting for shipwrecks in laccadives. The data collected will be analysed and documented for publication. This work will contribute to our knowledge about ancient maritime ports and cities.

(c) The project was sanctioned by the Department of Science and Technology only in October, 1984 and a sum of Rs. 5.76 lacs has been released for 1984-85 as the first instalment.

(d) It is too early report to progress on this project.

Malayalam Newspaper on Board Air
India Operating between
Trivandrum and Cochin

6774. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether it is proposed to

make available Malayalam newspapers on board Air India operating from Trivandrum and Cochin for the convenience of Malayalee knowing passengers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : Air-India do not operate from Cochin. However, the following Malayalam publications are carried on board their flights between Trivandrum and Gulf :

- (i) Malayala Manorama
- (ii) Mathru Bhumi
- (iii) Keral Kaumudi

Promotion of Keradu Temple Barmer District Rajasthan as a Tourism Centre

6775. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the places for adoption and promotion of "Keradu" Temples (Barmer District) Rajasthan as a Tourist Centre;

(b) whether the Rajasthan Government have sent any proposal in this regard;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether the Union Government are providing sufficient fund for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) to (d). The Department has not received any proposal for the development of Keradu Temple in the Barmer District of Rajasthan. The State Government, however, are taking action for development of Keradu Temples as a place of tourist interest.

India Elected to U. N. Bodies

6776. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) number and norms of U. N. Bodies and other International Organisation to which India was elected for 1984-85;

(b) the functions of those bodies; and

(c) important role played by India in all those bodies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :

(a) India was elected to the following 13 U. N. bodies during 1984-85 :

1. Economic and Social Council;
2. Statistical Commission;
3. Commission on Human Settlements;
4. Commission on Transnational Corporations;
5. Committee on Natural Resources;
6. UNICEF Executive Board;
7. Commission on the Status of Women;
8. Governing Council of United Nations Environment Programme;
9. International Civil Service Commission;
10. Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities;
11. Committee on Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination;
12. Executive Council of Universal Postal Union;
13. Consultative Council for Postal studies of the Universal Postal Union.

(b) The U. N. is charged by its Charter with promoting the following objectives in the economic and social fields :

- (i) Higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development;
- (ii) Solutions to international economic, social, health and related problems, and international cultural and educational co-operation; and
- (iii) Universal respect of observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The various subsidiary bodies, functional commissions and specialised inter-governmental organisations are charged with functions relating to the field or their specific activities