

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The performance of Vayudoot is reviewed from time to time.

(b) Vayudoot will, in the first instance, concentrate on airlinking stations already identified in Phase I of its expansion programme. The question of airlinking other stations will be considered later.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Air Fare from Dubai to Trivandrum

2421. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India's fare from Dubai to Trivandrum is about twice that of other Airlines;

(b) whether a large portion of the revenue of Air-India is from gulf countries;

(c) whether due to this high fare most of the Indians abroad prefer other airlines and take to route via Sri Lanka; and

(d) whether Government propose to revise the air fare and bring it in line with other Airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Number of Custodial Rape in States

2422. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many cases of custodial rape

have reported since the passage of Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1983; State-wise and year-wise.

(b) in how many cases prosecution was initiated;

(c) how many cases have resulted in conviction; and

(d) the number of cases pending ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (d). No data relating to the number of custodial rapes; number of prosecutions/convictions in such cases; and the number of such pending cases is compiled on all-India basis as the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are primarily responsible for enforcing the law relating to offences.

Shifting of Central Finger Print Bureau from Calcutta

2423. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Fingerprint Bureau is being shifted away from Calcutta;

(b) if so, what are the reasons; and

(c) considering that there is already a Central Forensic Science Laboratory under the C.B.I. with finger print reference in Delhi and every State has its own finger print Bureau, whether Government are contemplating to reconsider the decision to shift, if already taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) No decision to shift the Central Finger Print Bureau from Calcutta has been taken by the Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Exploitation of Tourist Potentialities in West Bengal

2424. SHRI SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a comprehensive plan has

been drawn up to exploit West Bengal tourist potentialities in full;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to develop places of tourist interest like Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Mirik etc; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) The Department in consultation with the State Government has identified 15 tourist centres in West Bengal for phased development of tourism infrastructure through the combined resources of the Centre, State and the private sectors so as to exploit its tourist potential.

(b) and (c). Prior to the Sixth Five Year Plan, the Department has assisted the State Government in the setting up of a Youth Hostel and a Tourist Lodge at Darjeeling. In the VI Plan the Department provided financial assistance for the purchase of boats for Mirik Lake and trekking equipment. Other schemes on which financial assistance has been rendered relate to the provision of a motor launch and construction of a barge for floating accommodation in Sunderbans, a mini bus at Jaldapara, floodlighting of Vishnupur temple, five trekkers huts on the Sandakphu-phalut region and construction of cottages in Ajodhya Hills.

During the VII Five Year Plan it is proposed to take up the following schemes with central assistance :

- (i) Construction of tourist lodge and cottages at Digha.
- (ii) Tourist facilities at Bijanbari in Darjeeling district.
- (iii) Introduction of White Water sports such as rafting and canoeing on the Rangeet-Tista rivers.
- (iv) Introduction of launch cruise on the Hooghly in Calcutta.

(v) Construction of Yatri Niwas.

(vi) Construction of Forest Lodges at Sunderbans and Hasai.

(vii) Construction of Dharamshalas through Bhartiya Yatri Avas Vikas Samiti.

Development of Allahabad as a Tourist Centre

2425. SHRI AMITABH BACHCHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the necessity of developing Allahabad as a major tourist centre in order to attract more tourists to that city; and

(b) if so, the details of steps to be taken and the schemes to be implemented for this purpose during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b). Specific proposals from the State Government for improving the tourism infrastructure at Allahabad will be considered by the Central Government when received.

In order to provide inexpensive accommodation to meet the requirements of middle income tourists both international and domestic, a proposal is under the consideration of the Department for the setting up of a Yatri Niwas at Allahabad. The detailed proposal in this regard is, however, awaited from the State Government.

Functioning of Zonal Councils

2426. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Zonal Councils are in existence and they meet at intervals;