

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the passenger traffic from and to Vijayawada and the % increase during the last 3 years are as follows :—

Year	Embar- king	% incre- ase	Disem- barking	% incre- ase
1982-83	8272	—	7642	—
1983-84	11525	39	10684	40
1984-85	15570	35	14763	38

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). It is proposed to develop the Vijayawada Airport during the Seventh Five Year Plan period so as to make it suitable for operations by Boeing 737 aircraft. In the draft Seventh Plan provision has accordingly been made for the following works :—

- (i) Extension and strengthening of the runway and associated pavements;
- (ii) Construction of a new Terminal building, car park and approach road;
- (iii) Construction of an operational wall;
- (iv) Augmentation of electric supply;
- (v) Augmentation of water supply.

Shifting of Cochin airport

4292. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to shift the airport of Cochin to Sherthalai,

in Alleppey district for facilitating the landing of bigger planes; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take immediate steps to send the concerned officers for inspection of the site ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal of sending any officer at present. This will be considered on receipt of certain details from the State Government of Kerala.

Difficulties faced by tourist guides in Orissa

4293 SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that approved tourist guides in Orissa are facing difficulties due to guides being sent by the outside travel agencies along with the tourist parties on visits to Orissa;

(b) whether India Tourism Development Corporation are utilising the services of unapproved guides which affect the approved guides; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Central Government in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL
AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) :**

(a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Haj pilgrimage

4294. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who applied for Haj pilgrimage to Holy Mecca and Medina during 1984, and the number of persons who were permitted, State-wise;