

to purchase the aircraft at 45% of the original purchase price of US \$ 115 million.

Ban on First Class Travel

1424. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:

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

(a) whether facility to staff to travel by first class has been withdrawn by Air India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how many AI employees availed of First Class travel facility during 1987 and how many first class seats had gone empty during this period; and

(d) the loss to Air India on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). Air India Management have taken various steps to improve the product and passenger facilities. One of the steps was to rationalise the First Class Travel entitlement of various categories of employees. Now, only personnel of the level of Directors and above and certain other categories are entitled to travel by First Class. On vacation travel, all employees including the senior management personnel will travel either in Club Class or in Economy Class.

(c) Information in this regard is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) Air India expects that by rationalising the facility of first class travel, it would be able to attract more first class fare paying passengers. The additional revenue estimated on this account is Rs. 28 Crores approximately.

Development of Domestic Airports for Landing of International Flights

1425. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop some of the domestic airports by providing landing facilities for international flights;

(b) if so, the names of such airports; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to develop the existing international airports and provide more amenities to the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ahmedabad and Bangalore aerodromes are planned to be developed for limited international operations.

(c) The major works under consideration/construction at the international airports are:-

- (i) New International Terminal Complex, Madras.
- (ii) New International Terminal Complex, Calcutta.
- (iii) Modification and extension of existing Domestic Terminal Complex, Bombay.
- (iv) New International Terminal Complex (Phase III) Bombay.

Apart from these, services like prepaid taxies, aero-bridges, modern baggage conveyor belts and better furniture, pictographs, CCTVs. etc. would be provided to the passengers at the International airports.

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademy

1426. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademy at Fursatganj in Uttar Pradesh is coming up as per schedule;

(b) if so, the estimated cost and dates when the ground training and flying training

will be started, alongwith the intake capacity in the first phase; and

(c) the details of the project on completion including the facilities to be made available for ground and flying training including helicopter training and the likely date of completion of the entire project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An estimated cost of the project is Rs. 2654.56 lakhs. Ground training and flying training started on 30.6.1986 and 22.10.1986 respectively. The intake capacity in the first phase is (i) for Commercial Pilot's Licence 20 trainees per batch with two batches running simultaneously; and (ii) for Commercial Helicopter Pilot's Licence 10 pilots per batch.

(c) The Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademy is a completely residential institution established for the training of commercial pilots for the country's airlines. The training imparted includes Twin Engine endorsement and Instrument Rating. Commercial Helicopter Pilots are also trained.

Concessions to War Widows

1427. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any formal assessment regarding the provision of concessions extended to war widows by the Union Government and the State Governments has been made;

(b) if so, the outcome of the assessment; and

(c) if not, whether any formal assessment would be made in the near future and the likely date thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) to (c). The provisions of concessions ex-

tended to war widows by the Central Government regarding employment, self-employment, medical and education facilities have been reviewed and found to be adequate. Further, widows of service-men have also been made eligible for loans under the two new self-employment schemes for ex-servicemen, SEMFEX-I started from 1-4-1987 and SEMFEX-II started from 15-1-1988.

Various provisions of concessions have been extended by the State Governments also though the nature and quantum of concessions vary from State to State.

The provisions of concessions extended to war widows by the Central and State Governments appear to meet the requirements of war widows in various aspects of their rehabilitation. However, the provisions of concessions in certain aspects available in a State, but not in others, are brought to the notice of other States for considering adoption.

Special Projects in Districts having large Scheduled Castes Population

1428. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts having 30 per cent and above Scheduled Caste population, blocks having Scheduled Caste population of 50 per cent and above and those blocks having less than 30 per cent Scheduled Caste population in the country;

(b) whether any special projects are proposed to be taken in the blocks having 50 per cent Scheduled Caste population and above; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON): (a) This information is available on pages 81 to 91 in the publication "Selected Statistics on Scheduled Castes" issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (June, 1984). Two copies each of the publi-