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THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (c). Plan outlays for the 4 States of the Eastern Region, namely Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and Sikkim have been registering appreciable increases from year to year during the Seventh Plan. The percentage increases in their case compares favourably with the All-States average. As such, the outlays under the plans of the States cannot be considered meagre.

Technology Data Bank

2210. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether sophisticated technology data bank is being set up to provide information to both public and private sectors about the latest technological development in the world over; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b). A Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) has been set up as an autonomous body under the Department of Science and Technology. The TIFAC plans to promote strengthening and standardising of various technology-related data bases and data banks existing with various agencies and departments in the country. It will also promote establishment of new technology-related data bases in areas where none exists.

These data bases will have national

access and provide information services to public and private sector industries, R&D establishments, Government offices, etc. It is planned to provide suitable international linkages so that Indian users will have the information on the contemporary world status of technologies.

Market Development Fund for Tourism

2211. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION and TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government have approved in principle the establishment of Market Development Fund to facilitate hotel and travel agencies to set up tourism infrastructure in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism have launched a scheme to provide Assistance for Development of International Tourism (ADIT) on the pattern of the scheme of Market Development Fund. Under the scheme, a part of the expenditure on certain activities which are essentially promotional in nature and are likely to result in greater flow of foreign tourists to India, will be reimbursed by the Department.

Vayudoot Service between Calcutta and Balurghat

2212. SHRI PALAS BARMAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to re-introduce Vayudoot service between Calcutta and Balurghat via Malda;

(b) if so, from which data it will be put into operation; and

(c) whether the tri-weekly service will be converted into a daily service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c). The Vayudoot is at present faced with an acute shortage of aircraft capacity. The services may be resumed on acquisition of additional capacity and availability of suitable ground infrastructure.

[*Translation*]

Hiring of Cars by Delhi Police for V.I.Ps Security

2213. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 4 May, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 9577 regarding hiring of cars for escort duties with V.I.Ps and state:

(a) the average number of cars hired by the Security Department of Delhi Police during 1988-89 for the security of V.I.Ps and the total amount incurred thereon so far; and

(b) the reasons for not purchasing own cars by Delhi Police for the security department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) On an average 50 to 60 cars are hired everyday. An amount of Rs. 28,95,023/- was incurred from 1.4.1988 to 31.10.1988.

(b) Sanction for purchase of 40 cars by

Delhi Police for VVIP escort duties has recently been issued.

[*English*]

Annual Project Management Audit of Major Projects

2214. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has suggested annual project management audit of all major and problem projects by professional experts to detect time-slippages and lapses;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has proposed to make necessary institutional arrangement for this purpose; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposal to streamline the system of project implementation by institutionalising the system of project management audit of problem projects etc. is under examination at various levels of Government.

[*Translation*]

Resentment Amongst Union Territory Cadre Police Officials

2215. SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned