

Capital involved in Launching Third Level Air Service

652. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 3537 on 12th December, 1980 regarding expenditure on Third Level Air Service and state:

(a) the financial details of recurring and non-recurring expenditure and capital involved in launching the Third-level Air Service; and

(b) the sectors proposed to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) The estimated recurring and non-recurring expenditure for the year 1980-81 is as under:—

Recurring	Non-recurring
Rs. 025 crore	Rs. 0.75 crore
Authorised capital of the Company is Rs. 25 crores
Subscribed Capital Rs. 6.5 crores

(b) The following sectors have been covered by the scheduled operations of 'Vayudoot' with effect from 28th January, 1981.

Gauhati/Barapani

Kamalpur/Agartala

Agartala/Kailashahar

Gauhati/Rupsi

Chabua/Tezu

Gauhati/Kamalpur

Gauhati/Kailashahar

Silver Smuggling

653. SHRI B. D. SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the revival of smuggling particularly of silver on a large scale on certain Indian coasts;

(b) if so, details thereof stating the quantity of silver (with value) seized during the last one year (1980); and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA):

(a) Reports received by Government indicate that the Western coast has been vulnerable to smuggling, including the out-smuggling of silver, over the recent past.

(b) The Customs authorities seized goods valued at about Rs. 53 crores in the country during 1980, including about 30.7 tonnes of silver valued at about Rs. 9.48 crores.

(c) The Preventive and intelligence machinery of the Customs Department has been strengthened. The Customs authorities along the Western coast have been equipped with fast moving crafts to intercept vessels engaged in smuggling, and the vulnerable areas along the coast are covered by the wireless communication network for quick and secret transmission of information relating to smuggling activities.

Abolition of soft loan Scheme

654. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to abolish the existing soft loan scheme for modernisation of industries belonging to the private sector; and