

Diversion of Colombo-Bound Flight

4367. SHRI S. SINGARAVADIVEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Avero Aircraft, Flight No. 575 bound for Colombo (Via) Trichy from Madras was diverted from Madras to Trivandrum on its way to Trichy on 1st March, 1981;

(b) is it a fact that it was so diverted to carry 'Dinghy' to Trivandrum left behind by the crew of the Boeing bound for Maldives Via Trivandrum from Madras on that day;

(c) what is the loss incurred by the Department by such diversion; and

(d) what steps do Government propose to take against those responsible for this and to prevent such occurrence in future?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Dinghies were not provided due to oversight at Madras, as normally aircraft does not operate to Male on that day of the week.

(c) Approximately Rs. 13 thousand.

(d) This particular incident is an isolated case and the staff concerned has been severely warned for this lapse and warning has been placed on his service record.

Evaluation of fiscal policies prevalent in other countries

4368. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any comparative evaluation of the fiscal policies prevalent in other developing countries; and

(b) if so, changes being contemplated in our policy in the light of the experience of the other countries, keeping in view the uniqueness of our case?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b). In framing our fiscal policy, the experience of other developing countries is taken note of. The fiscal measures pursued are constantly reviewed with a view to ensuring that they serve best the interests of our economy.

Three point fiscal strategy for 1981-82

4369. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has asked all the State Governments to adopt a three-point fiscal strategy for 1981-82; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the programme and whether it has also expressed its concern over 'considerable deficit'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India, in its Annual study of the finances of State Governments during 1980-81 published in its Bulletin of September, 1980, has made some suggestions regarding the fiscal strategy to be adopted by the States during 1981-82. The Reserve Bank has stated that the approach to fiscal strategy for the ensuing year should (i) include elements that restrain the growth of non-development expenditure, (ii) enhance the scope of taxation of upper income groups in the agricultural sector and (iii) tap savings from rural areas. The Reserve Bank of India has expressed concern at budgetary deficits.