

(b) the date on which this Commission was constituted in the past;

(c) whether a proposal for constituting a second Labour Commission has already been sent to the Cabinet; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) The first National Commission on Labour was constituted under the Government of India Resolution dated 24.12.1966 and the report was submitted in August, 1969. Government has not taken the final decision on constituting the Second Labour Commission.

Proposal to open Casino in Khajuraho

3078. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open 'Casino' in Khajuraho on the pattern of Nepal and Singapore to attract foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations against opening of Casino; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Air India Fares in Gulf Sector

3079. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fare charged by the Air India in the Gulf sector is more than its charges for equal distance in other sectors;

(b) if so, the details of the fares being charged by Air India in different sectors;

(c) whether there have been demands from the Gulf sector to reduce the fare and bring it down to the level of fares in other sectors; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d) It is not possible to compare fares on different sectors because of the difference in the cost of operations, traffic flow, availability of capacity, competition element etc. Based on these criteria, the existing fares on Gulf sectors are considered reasonable.

Increase in Criminal Activities in Trains

3080. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2067 dated December 5, 1996 and state:

(a) whether the criminal activities are on increase now-a-days in Orissa, New Delhi bound trains due to slackness of the concerned personnels; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, train-wise during 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Setting up of IRCC

3081. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since taken any decision to shelve the plan for setting up the Indian Railway Catering Corporation (IRCC);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Processing of the proposal has been taken up in consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments.

Air Services at Tuticorin, Salem and Pondicherry

3082. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to operate air services through the already constructed airports at places like Tuticorin, Salem and Pondicherry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) At present, Indian Airlines has no plans to operate services from these airports due to inadequate traffic potential and small runways. However, private operators, with suitable aircraft, are being encouraged to add more services in their network including Tuticorin, Salem and Pondicherry.

[Translation]

Amount given for Advertisement to Regional Language

3083. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR :
SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for giving advertisement to newspapers;

(b) amount paid by the Directorate of Audio Visual Publicity for advertisement to newspaper, language-wise and year-wise during each of the last three years, upto December 31, 1996;

(c) the cumulative arrears to be paid by the DAVP as on December 31, 1996, to the newspapers, language-wise;

(d) the revised advertisement budget of DAVP for 1996-97;

(e) the average time taken to make payment of advertisement bills; and

(f) the steps taken to make the payment expeditiously particularly to small newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) The criteria governing release of Government advertisements are to secure widest possible coverage. Advertisements are released to newspapers/periodicals, empanelled with the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), keeping in view the publicity requirements, target readership and area and budgetary provisions.

(b) Amount paid by DAVP for advertisements to newspapers/periodicals during the last three years, upto 31st December 1996, is as follows :

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1994-95	27.77
1995-96	37.35
1996-97 (upto 31st December 1996)	20.02

Payments are not segregated language-wise by DAVP.

(c) The information is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The advertisements budget of DAVP for the year 1996-97 is Rs. 2633.90 lakhs.

(e) Six to eight weeks, provided the bill is in order and funds are available.

(f) In order to make expeditious payment of advertisement bills of newspapers, including those of small newspapers, bills are being processed on computer on seriatim basis.

Statement

Language-wise statement showing arrears of pending bills to be paid by DAVP to newspapers as on 31st December 1996

Sl.No.	Language	Amount (Rs.)
1.	English	25814186.25
2.	Hindi	29921314.53
3.	Urdu	3784833.35
4.	Punjabi	3774298.84
5.	Marathi	2823849.99
6.	Gujarati	1675876.31
7.	Sindhi	94990.43
8.	Assamese	709805.59
9.	Bengali	3383265.07
10.	Oriya	1905072.75
11.	Tamil	1285704.88
12.	Telugu	722347.34
13.	Malayalam	2950213.58
14.	Kannada	1076196.16
15.	Nepali	2166.40
16.	Sanskrit	3065.40
17.	Mizo	31606.00
18.	Khasi	2763.50
19.	Konkani	1077.12
20.	Manipuri	861.00
21.	Multi-editions	14273516.62

[English]

Survey for New Rail line from Krishnanagar to Karimpur

3084. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :
DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to conduct a survey for construction of a new railway line from