

initiated to improve plan performance by speeding up the execution of Plan programmes. The Planning Commission is at present engaged in conducting a mid-term appraisal of the Plan including the resources for it.

Monopoly in Fishing Industry

988 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether certain monopoly houses have entered into the fishing industry ,
- (b) if so, how many of them are with foreign collaboration; and
- (c) the action taken by Government to prevent the expansion of these monopolist groups ?

THE MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). Information is being obtained from the Ministries concerned and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Chapter III of the Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices Act lays down provisions for regulation of the concentration of economic power and wherever these provisions are applicable, no substantial expansion or the setting up of a new undertaking can be effected by the parties concerned without prior approval of the Central Government. No approval has been accorded so far in this field to any undertaking registered under Section 26 of the M. R. T. P. Act.

Inaugural Flight of the Boeing 737 of the Indian Airlines

989. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Chief Minister was not invited as guest of the Indian

Airlines in the inaugural flight of the Boeing 737 from Bombay to Trivandrum and that he was a paid passenger in the flight;

(b) who were the guests of the Indian Airlines on this inaugural flight; and

(c) whether in the inaugural flight of Bombay-Nasik route of Indian Airlines, the Maharashtra Chief Minister was an invitee ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : The Kerala Chief Minister was invited by Indian Airlines to accompany their first Boeing 737 flight from Bombay to Trivandrum. As, however, he was returning from Delhi after attending the Chief Ministers' Conference and held a return ticket from Delhi to Trivandrum via Bangalore, he was re-routed via Bombay and the cost of fare for the sector Bombay-Trivandrum already paid, is being refunded by Indian Airlines.

(d) Apart from the Kerala Chief Minister, Shri V. K. Krishna Menon, Member of Parliament was the only special invitee to join the flight from Bombay to Trivandrum. However, from Bangalore, the following five newspaper representatives were invited :

1. Mr. T. A. Subramaniam, Editor, 'The Mail' Madras.
2. Mr. Neelakantan, Regional Manager, PTI, Madras.
3. Mr. Seetharaman, Regional Manager, UNI, Madras.
4. Mr. Madhavan Kutty, Assistant Editor, 'Indian Express' Madras.
5. Mr. R. Muthuswamy, Reporter, 'The Hindu', Madras.

(c) The Maharashtra Chief Minister was invited, but he could not participate.