

Application for Reduction of Air Fare Between India and Australia to I.A.T.A.

4696. SHRI B. K. DAS CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India and Qantas Airways of Australia applied to the International Air Transport Association for reduction of fares between the two countries; and

(b) if so, response received in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). At the I.A.T.A. (International Air Transport Association) Traffic Conferences held in Cannes and Geneva, Air India obtained a tentative agreement to establish new promotional fares from Australia/New Zealand to India in order to promote tourist traffic. These fares have, however, not been finally accepted by I.A.T.A., owing to the problems of certain other airlines in this area.

Robbing of Foreign Tourists

4697. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry was held in the matter of robbing of three foreign tourists on their way from Delhi to Varanasi on 5th October, 1969;

(b) whether any arrests were made in this connection; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). The Government of Uttar Pradesh have reported that a police patrolling party during their beat found three foreign nationals along with a child sleeping inside their car parked on the wayside on the Grand Trunk Road about four miles east of Gurshahaiganj in District Fatehgarh on the night of October 4/5, 1969 while they were on their way from Delhi to Varanasi. The

police party advised them to move to some Inspection House or Police Station in Gurshahaiganj. The foreign nationals however left that place and moved on to another place about four miles west of Gurshahaiganj and went to sleep inside their vehicle parked on the roadside in a lonely place. Some miscreants are reported to have attacked and beaten these persons while they were asleep in their car and also robbed them. While the child remained unharmed the others received injuries. On receipt of this information the foreigners were brought to the Police Station along with the vehicle and the injured persons were sent to the local hospital at Gurshahaiganj for medical aid.

Three persons involved in this attack were immediately arrested. Investigation of the case revealed the participation of five persons in the commission of the offence. Efforts to arrest the remaining two are continuing. The three arrested have been challaned.

Bifurcation of Intelligence Bureau

4698. SHRI S. N. MISRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Intelligence Bureau had been bifurcated and a new Department known as Research and Analysis Wing has been created and attached to the Cabinet Secretariat;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that junior staff transferred to the new Wing had been promoted ignoring the claims of the senior staff working in the Bureau.

(c) whether option was not given to the senior staff before distributing them among the two wings;

(d) whether senior staff was not distributed equally between the two Departments; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to safeguard the interest of the senior staff who had been superseded by the junior staff and to avoid frustration and heart-burning amongst them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (e). For greater efficiency of the intelligence services, the external intelligence wing has been separated from the internal intelligence wing. The allocation of staff between the wings has been made on the basis of work handled by them. Cases of hardship if any arising out of such allocation will be individually considered and dealt with sympathetically.

Discussions with World Bank Regarding National Highways

4699. SHRI JUGAL MONDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the discussions with the World Bank authorities on new National Highways have since been completed, and

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The discussions being held with World Bank authorities are for development of certain sections of existing National Highways and not for taking up of new National Highways. These discussions have not been completed.

Increase in Road Accidents in Delhi

4700. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a considerable increase in the road accidents in Delhi during 1968-69 as compared to the preceding two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in regard thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINI-

STRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH): (a) No. There has been a decrease in the number of road accidents during the year under reference.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps taken, or proposed to be taken, by the Delhi Administration to reduce road accidents are indicated below:—

I. Road Safety Education

(i) Road safety education, including lectures on road safety and observance of traffic rules, is imparted in educational institutions. This is followed by practical demonstrations.

(ii) Television shows are being arranged for children.

(iii) Pamphlets and comics on road safety are distributed among children and also in the surrounding villages.

(iv) Films on road safety are shown in various schools.

(v) Cautionary "school" sign boards have been fixed near almost all schools falling on road side for the guidance of motorists.

(vi) Pedestrian crossings have been marked and speed restrictions imposed on all important roads.

(vii) A traffic Training School has been functioning at Irwin Road where training in traffic regulations is given to children.

(viii) Cinema slides on traffic safety are being shown regularly in about 25 cinemas in the city with burlesque figures.

(ix) A mobile traffic education van functions daily for six hours during peak hours to educate road users on the spot by pinpointing their mistakes.

II. Engineering improvements

(x) On the advice of the traffic police, round-about are being removed, road crossings widened, channelisers footpaths and cycle tracks provided,