

*[Translation]***Landing of Bhopal bound Flight at Indore**

3417. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flight of Indian Airlines which took off from Delhi in the night instead of day on 17th December, 1998 Landed directly at Indore instead of Bhopal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of passengers in that flight who had purchased tickets for Bhopal;

(d) whether the employees of Air Traffic Control Tower, instead of providing facility for landing the aircraft at Bhopal airport went to their houses;

(e) if so, the action taken against them;

(f) whether the local Member of Parliament has made a complaint in this regard; and

(g) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Because of unprecedented fog, Alliance Air flight CD-433 on 17th December, 1998 left Delhi at 2133 Hrs. against the scheduled departure time of 1810 Hrs. It had to overfly Bhopal because of non-availability of watch hours there

(c) There were 37 passengers on board who had purchased tickets for Bhopal.

(d) and (e) At Bhopal the watch hours are available only upto 2015 hours. The watch was closed after Indian Airlines had informed ATC Bhopal that flight CD-433 was operating Delhi-Indore-Mumbai.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Indian Airlines who have been asked to investigate the complaint are yet to submit their findings.

*[English]***Implementation of Plans by IIMC**

3418. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the plans proposed to be implemented by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication during 1999-2000; and

(b) the budgetary provisions made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) The plan schemes to be implemented by Indian Institute of Mass Communication during 1999-2000 are:

- (i) Building and Housing Project;
- (ii) Research and Evaluation Studies;
- (iii) Modernisation and Expansion of Facilities for Electronic/Print/Radio and TV Journalism and Video Production;
- (iv) IIMC Branch, Dhenkanal (Orissa);
- (v) IIMC Branch, Kottayam (Kerala);
- (vi) IIMC Branch, Dimapur (Nagaland); and
- (vii) IIMC Branch, Jhabua (Madhya Pradesh).

(b) The Budget Provision for the above Plan Schemes during 1999-2000 is Rs. 370.00 lakhs.

*[Translation]***Transfer of BTDC Assets to ITDC**

3419. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar has sent any proposal to the Union Government for the transfer of some assets of Bihar Tourism Development Corporation to I.T.D.C.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Haj Pilgrimage

3420. SHRI K. KRISNAMOORTHY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to engage any foreign based aviation company to transport Haj pilgrims to Saudi Arabia;

(b) if so, the details thereof and its impact on Air India;

(c) the total number of pilgrims expected to go on Haj during the year; and

(d) the amount of subsidy to be paid by the Government on each Haj pilgrim this year and the estimated total subsidy to be borne by the Government during the year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) M/s. MIDO Aviation Group, USA has been engaged for undertaking Haj movement by air during Haj-1999 which commenced from 18.2.99. There is no impact on Air India as Haj flights are undertaken on "no profit no loss" basis.

(c) The number of pilgrim for Haj, 1999 is expected to be 63,000.

(d) The amount of subsidy to be paid by the Government per pilgrim is Rs. 17640 and the total subsidy for 63000 Hajis has been estimated at Rs. 111 crores.

Gauge Conversion

3421. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the projects for conversion of Khagaria-Samastipur and Katihar-Jogbani metre gauge lines into broad gauge are still pending clearance; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAİK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The projects were included in the budget without completion of current surveys. Surveys have since been got completed and the clearance process has been initiated.

Air India International Flight to Agra

3422. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending under consideration of the Government for International flights of Air India to Agra Airport;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Supreme Court's Ruling on Employment

3423. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 319 dated August 13, 1997 regarding Supreme Court ruling on employment and state:

(a) whether the Government have since filed a review petition before the Supreme court;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (c) The Review Petition filed by the Government in the Supreme Court against Supreme Court judgement dated 22.8.96 in the case of the Excise Superintendent Malkapatnam, Krishna District, Andhra