

**Pending Claims in ITDC**

3427. SHRI D.S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of claims for supplies and works are pending for settlement in Regional Offices of ITDC in mega cities for the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of cases referred to arbitration particularly in Mumbai and progress made therein;

(d) whether the Government are considering to take any fresh steps for settlement of pending claims within a stipulated time;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of major irregularities reported/committed by ITDC officials and progress of investigation if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Presently, only two claims are pending in the Mumbai Regional Office of ITDC as per details given below :

Sr. No.	Name of the Party	Amount (in Rs.)	Pending since when	Services rendered
1.	Sh. Mohd. Tayab, Civil Contractor	1,17,059	August, 1998	Civil Works
2.	M/s Manal Tours & Travels	29,466	Nov. 98/Feb.97	Hiring of vehicles.

(c) No case of claims for supplies and works has been referred to arbitration in Regional Offices of ITDC.

(d) and (e) The settlement of dues is done as per laid down procedures, subject to the condition that the bills are verified and found correct in all respects.

(f) As informed by ITDC no major irregularity on the part of ITDC officials has been reported in processing of the aforesaid claims.

**U.S. Satellite for Surveillance over India**

3428. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the two US Satellites that are generally responsible for surveillance over India;

(b) if so, whether the Army Engineers, Scientists from Atomic Energy Commission and the Defence Research and Development Organisation calibrated their movements with these satellites; and

(c) if so, the main steps being considered to check the foreign surveillance in India?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The Government is aware of the presence of such satellites. Disclosure of any further details will not be in the national security interest.

**Airport at Ambala**

3429. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for construction of a new Civil Airport at Ambala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Development of Food Processing Sector**

3430. SHRI R.S. GAVAI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state: