

organised by Deptt. of Tourism on 30th Oct., 1996. The open session was meant to promote tourism and investment in India. The State Govts. of Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa gave presentations regarding investment opportunities in their States.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Recovery from Mid East Steel Co. Ltd.
by SAIL**

4040 SHRI S. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :
SHRI AJMEERA CHANDULAL :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the SAIL propose to sue against Mid East Steel Company Limited for recovery of Rs. 5.2 crore;

(b) whether bank guarantee and provision of payment of interest was not included in MoU signed by SAIL in 1994

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. SAIL has already filed a suit against Mid East Steel Company Ltd. for recovery of Rs. 5.2 crores.

(b) to (d). SAIL has intimated that provision of interest payment, for delay in payment beyond the interest-free credit period, was included in the MOU. However, considering the potential of sale volume and party's standing, they were exempted from submission of Bank Guarantee which is permissible as per the marketing policy of SAIL.

Users Charge at Calicut Airport

4041. SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) the amount of "Users Charge" collected at Calicut airport during each of the last three years;

(b) whether "Users Charge" is also proposed to be levied at other airports of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the justification of levying the said charge at Calicut airport only;

(d) whether the Government propose to discontinue collection of "Users Charge" at Calicut airport and extend funds for the development of the airport; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Collection of "user charge" commenced only from 1st Oct., 1995 and an amount of Rs. 228.52 lakhs has been collected during 1995-96.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Airports Authority of India (AAI) could not have taken up the upgradation of Calicut Airport immediately without financial assistance from Malabar International Airport Development Society (MIADS). MIADS agreed to provide an interest free loan of Rs. 60 crores to AAI for the purpose of extension of runway. For payment of interest on loan amount provided by MIADS, Govt. has agreed to the levy of "user charge" of Rs. 500 per embarking passenger till the project of extension of runway is completed at Calicut Airport.

(d) and (e). The matter is under examination.

**Evaluation about Viewership of
Parliament News**

4042 SHRI R. DEVADASS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any evaluation has been done about the viewership of the Parliament News relayed in Hindi and English when the Parliament is in Session;

(b) whether the viewership is poor;

(c) whether those slots could be used for sponsored programmes to increase the revenue of Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Doordarshan has not conducted any specific evaluation about the viewership of these News bulletins. However, as per ratings available from a limited number of cities, the viewership of these programmes is not very high.

(c) and (d). Since these bulletins serve the useful purpose of informing the viewers in the country about the proceedings of the Parliament, there is no proposal for using these slots for sponsored programmes.

First Class Managership Examination

4043. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a representation and letters from various Associations/M.P.s requesting to exempt Graduate Mining Engineers for appearing in First class Managership Examination;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Graduate Mining Engineers had mass-boycott of the First Class Managership Examination in 1990;