

(b) Some of the important steps taken by the airline to reduce losses are as under :-

- (i) Marketing efforts have been stepped up to generate additional revenue. (ii) Network rationalisation and consolidation with emphasis placed on route profitability. (iii) Reduction in expenditure on outside repairs of aircraft by undertaking more in-house repairs. (iv) Several posts of India based officers abroad have been abolished.

#### Development of Airports In Karnataka

3652. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka have submitted any request seeking financial assistance for the development of airports in the State;

(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) to (c) No, sir. However, the following requirement of funds for five airports in Karnataka was projected to the Planning Commission by this Ministry :-

Gulbarga	-	Rs. 50 crores
Mysore	-	Rs. 50 crores
Hubli	-	Rs. 35 crores
Belgaum	-	Rs. 35 crores
Hassan	-	Rs. 25 crores
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Rs.195 crores</b>

The Planning Commission have informed that the above projects may be considered subject to the availability of funds, the viability of the projects and the *inter-se* priority *vis-a-vis* other airport projects.

#### Performance of RITES and IRCON

3653. SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have evaluated the performance RITES and IRCON;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the new projects proposed to be taken up by RITES and IRCON during 1999-2000?

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 NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. The performance is evaluated on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed at the beginning of the financial year.

(b) The highlights of the performance of RITES & IRCON are as follows :

#### RITES :

	(Figures in crores of Rs.)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (Revised estimates)
Gross Margin	35.13	29.64	11.40
Turnover	134.73	132.89	128.20
Order Secured	98.60	117.71	*54.00
Dividend	1.00	1.29	Yet to be declared
Rating	Excellent	Excellent	Yet to be decided

#### IRCON :

	(Figures in crores of Rs.)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 (Revised estimates)
Gross Margin	56.25	60.55	46.40
Turnover	466.74	459.38	396.50
Order secured	254.17	382.35	*450.00
Dividend	1.98	8.66	Yet to be declared
Rating	Good	Very Good	Yet to be decided

\*As per Budget estimates.

(c) The details of new projects proposed to be taken up by RITES and IRCON during 1999-2000 are as follows :-

#### RITES :

- Package export of diesel locomotive to Myanmar Railways
- Techno economic feasibility study for inland Waterways/Road Project from Myanmar to Mizoram State.
- Supply of railway rolling stock equipments to Vietnam Railways.

**IRCON :**

- Construction of a new railway siding for NTPC's Thermal Power Plant at Simadhari (near Vishakhapatnam) in Andhra Pradesh
- Construction of Qazigund-Srinagar-Baramula new B.G. railway line in the Jammu and Kashmir.

*Railways*

**Consultancy Services by RITES**

3654. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether RITES has started providing consultancy services for certification in ISO 14000 on environmental management systems; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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 NAIK):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. RITES is actively involved in providing consultancy services on Environmental Management System for certification to ISO 14001 standard. M/s Godrej Soaps Ltd, Malanpur, MP has achieved certification based on RITES consultancy support. Consultancy in ISO 14001 system is presently being provided to following organisations :

1. Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala.
2. Hi-Tech Carbon, Goodmdipundi, Tamil Nadu.
3. LG Electronics India Pvt. Ltd., Greater Noida.
4. M/s Gwalior Polipines Ltd., Gwalior.

*Railways*

**Circular Train from Kamptee to Ambajhari**

3655. SHRI JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a policy decision to start local railway service in big cities having population of more than 10 lakhs;

(b) if so, the names of such cities where the government proposed to start the local railway service;

(c) whether the Government propose to start Circular Trains in Nagpur; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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 NAIK):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

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*Air Accidents*

**Crash of AN-32**

3656. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI K.S. RAO :

SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IAF AN-32 aircraft crashed in Delhi on March 7, 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of officers and civilians killed therein;

(c) whether the inquiry committee set up in this regard has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether compensation has been paid to kith and kin of the crew members and the civilians died in this accident; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An AN-32 aircraft met with an accident on 7.3.99 near IGI Airport in which 18 Air Force Personnel on Board and three civilians on ground sustained fatal injuries.

(c) and (d) A Court of inquiry ordered in this regard is still in progress.

(e) and (f) Compensation claims of the next of kins of those killed in the accident are being processed. However, an ex-gratia, interim relief has been paid to the next of kins of the civilians killed,