

by a senior officer from the Bangalore Development Authority and having representatives from the Aerodrome authorities of HAL, Airlines and Defence. Continuous efforts are made in association with local civil authorities to take effective measures to reduce bird hit incidents.

[*Translation*]

### Closure of Industries

2340. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey during the last year to identify the number of small, medium and big industries lying closed in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to revive these industries within a stipulated period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (c) The Labour Bureau, Shimla receives information from the various State Governments on the number of permanent closures and workers affected thereby, separately for Public, Co-operative, Joint and Private Sectors in State. According to figures published by the Labour Bureau, Shimla, the number of such closures and workers affected thereby for the year, 1998 for Bihar is as under:

	No. of Units	No. of workers affected (provisional)
Public Sector	—	—
Co-operative Sector	—	—
Private Sector	2	19
Joint Sector	—	—
Total:	2	19

Press Club

2341. SHRI JAGDAMB PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government advance grants to Press Club of India and its branches; and

(b) if so, the details of grants given during 1998-99?

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) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

### Central Food Technology Research Institute

2342. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Food Technology Research Institute, Mysore has prepared a report for the preservation and packing of Kharek and other fruits in Kutch District of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) On a specific request from Shri P.S. Gadhavi Honourable Member of Parliament, Kutch district of Gujarat, the Central Food Technological Research Institute has prepared a draft Study Report on "Development of Technology for Preservation and Processing of Kharek (Dates)", produced in Kutch district of Gujarat. The Report was sent by CFTRI to the Honourable Member of Parliament on 14.12.1998.

(b) No such report has been received in this Ministry so far.

### Fruit Drinks

2343. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entry of multinationals drastically changed the entire market scenario in the fruit drink sector due to massive advertising and marketing exercises undertaken by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the inability of funding for massive advertisements, upgradation and market promotion, the sale of Rasika Fruit Drink operations are on a low key; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Major market share in fruit drink industry is held by Indian companies like by Parle and Godrej Ltd. Coca Cola and Pepsi are promoting fruit drinks 'Maaza' and 'Slice' respectively, but their market share is very low.

(c) and (d) The fruit juice bottling plant of Modern Food Industries Ltd. (MFIL), a Public Sector Undertaking of this Ministry manufactures 'Rasika' fruit drink. This unit was transferred to MFIL from Ministry of Food and it needs massive upgradation of facilities. As the core activity of the company is bakery operations, fruit juice bottling received lower priority in terms of investments. This has resulted in fruit drink operations remaining at a low key.

#### **Upgradation of Mysore Airport**

2344. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have released any amount for upgradation of Mysore Airport in Karnataka during 1998-99;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been done for the purpose;

(d) if so, the estimated funds and the land required; and

(e) the steps taken to acquire the land?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The estimated cost of upgradation of the airport for operation of B-737 type of aircraft is Rs. 100 crores and 350 acres of land is required. Airports

Authority of India (AAI) has requested the State Government for handing over to them 350 acres of land, free of cost, for the above mentioned purpose.

#### **Cancellation of Indian Airlines Flights**

2345. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of Indian Airlines flights were cancelled at the last moment during the last three years in the country, particularly at Hyderabad airport;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to direct Indian Airlines not to resort to last minute cancellation of flights in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Only 0.29%, 0.66% and 0.41% of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air flights were cancelled ex-Hyderabad during the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 respectively because of adverse weather, airport restrictions, technical, miscellaneous and consequential reasons.

(c) The following steps are taken by Indian Airlines to reduce/eliminate cancellations:—

(i) Technical delays and cancellations are investigated, analysed and appropriate remedial action taken.

(ii) Special attention is paid to identify and rectify repetitive snags.

(iii) Effective co-ordination exists amongst various Departments to ensure that delays do not result in cancellations.

(iv) There is continuous follow up with vendors and aircraft manufacturers for upgradation of technical know-how and for improvement in the reliability of components.

#### **Daily Flight from Chandigarh**

2346. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether flights from Chandigarh to other cities of the country have been reduced;