

**Survey for Bari Sadari-Banswada Rail Line**

2352. SHRI SHANTI LAL CHAPLOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to conduct survey for laying rail line from Bari Sadari Railway Station to Banshi-Dhariwad-Ghotal-Banswada in Udaipur district of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the survey report is likely to be submitted?

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) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

**Electronic Device to Display name of Coming Station**

2353. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to arrange an electronic device in train to display the name of approaching station or announce through microphones to enable the passengers to detrain; 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) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Development of Aviation as Core Sector**

2354. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to make aviation a core transport sector so that it may play a very important role in the development of national economy;

(b) if so, whether this is proposed to be achieved by connecting regional hubs, creating a chain of air cargo complex, selecting suitable aircraft, rationalising fuel and airport taxes;

(c) if so, the other measures being considered to make aviation a thrust area for overall growth; and

(d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (a) to (d) Keeping in view the importance of aviation sector, a major initiative has been taken whereby all public sector enterprises are slated for disinvestment/privatisation/corporatisation. A decision has already been taken to initiate the process of corporatisation of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai airports and the proposed new airport at Bangalore. Similarly, it is proposed to develop more air cargo complexes to provide facilities and impetus for development of economy even in regional and sub-regional areas. A package of incentives to make the operations of smaller aircraft economically viable is also under consideration.

[Translation]

**Exhibition for Sale of Railway Items at Pragati Maidan**

2355. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an exhibition for sale of railway items was held in Pragati Maidan, Delhi during 1997-98 and its details were published in a booklet;

(b) if so, whether the Government have discontinued this practice; and

(c) if so, the reasons and 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.,

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

#### **Subsidised Flights for Himachal Pradesh**

2356. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are subsidising flights to Himachal Pradesh as are being done in case of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to give subsidy to the flights bound for Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Government is not subsidising flights either to Himachal Pradesh or Jammu and Kashmir. However, the fares to Jammu & Kashmir, North Eastern Region, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands are lower than other parts of the country.

#### **Guidelines for Cable and Satellite Operators**

2357. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE:  
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any guidelines to govern both cable and satellite operators in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to avoid trade war between cable operators?

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) and (b) Most of the satellite channels, including the foreign satellite channels, reach the viewers in India mostly through cable operators. In case of foreign satellite channels, there are no laws or guidelines to regulate their operation. Private Indian satellite channels uplinking from within the country

are expected to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Code of Prasar Bharati (Doordarshan). Operation of cable television network in the country is governed by the provisions of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and also the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994. Under the Cable Television Networks Act and Rules, codes for programme and advertising have been prescribed. However, these codes do not cover programmes of foreign satellite channels which can be received without the use of any specialised gadgets or decoder. Action has now been initiated for amending certain provisions of this Act with a view, *inter-alia*, to bring these programmes of the "free-to-air" foreign satellite channels also within the ambit of the prescribed programme/advertising code of the cable law when transmitted through a cable operator.

(c) Government is not aware of any trade war between cable operators.

#### **Setting up of a Naval Command at A&N Islands**

2358. SHRI D.S. AHIRE:  
SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO:  
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Naval Command at Andaman and Nicobar Island;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be in operation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The proposal to set up the Far Eastern Naval Command at Andaman and Nicobar Island is under consideration.

#### **Newspapers**

2359. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of registered newspapers and the places from where these are published daily;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to promote the newspapers published in regional languages; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?