

(d) if so, the details thereof:

(e) whether the Union Government have considered the proposal of Andhra Pradesh:

(f) if so, the places which has been considered as tourist centres and tourist attraction:

(g) whether the Government have agreed to provide funds for the development of these areas to attract more foreign tourists to visit these places in Andhra Pradesh; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had sent a proposal to open a new Chapter of Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management in Hyderabad. In view of the constraint in resources, the proposal of Government of Andhra Pradesh has not been taken up.

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. The main points which emerged were:

1. Tourism promotional strategy should include development of tourism product, augmentation of accommodation and infrastructural facilities and preservation and beautification of tourist centres.
2. Identification of Regional Travel Circuits.
3. Identification of monuments by the State Governments for development and refurbishment and upgradation.
4. Development of Rail Tourism.
5. Stress on Eco-Tourism and protection of tourist sites from deterioration.

(e) to (h). In consultation with the State Government, the Department of Tourism has prioritised the following projects for Central financial assistance in 1996-97:

1. Rs. 75 lakhs for additional construction of the Yatri Niwas at Tirupati.
2. Rs. 20 lakhs for the purchase of Boats and Launch for Bhavani Island, Vijayawada.

The Union Government have also identified Hyderabad-Nagarjuna Sagar-Tirupati Circuit for intensive development.

In order to publicise Andhra Pradesh as a tourist destination, the Union Government has brought out publicity literature on Andhra Pradesh and also extended financial assistance to promote various Fairs and Festivals such as Deccan Festival, Rayala-Seema Food Festival and Visakhotsav.

#### **Restrictions Imposed by Doordarshan**

1020 SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has recently imposed

certain restrictions, such as increase in the fees, programme timing etc.:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c). No restrictions have been imposed for giving programmes/advertisements on Doordarshan. However, as part of its ongoing activity to rationalise its rate card, keeping in view the emerging market trends, Doordarshan has revised its rate structure of commercial advertisement w.e.f. 15.11.96 enhancing thereby rates in certain categories.

#### **Persons Engaged in Beedi Industry**

1021 SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of persons engaged in the beedi industry;

(b) whether most of the persons out of them belonging to scheduled castes/scheduled tribes and backward classes and women are in large number among them;

(c) whether permission has been given by the Government for manufacturing of small cigarettes in competition with beedis and for the purpose of giving incentives to small cigarette producers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if so, the details of the loss suffered by the beedi workers and beedi producers due to small cigarettes; and

(f) the steps taken by the Union Government to avoid such a situation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The estimated number of beedi workers in the country is 42.73 lakhs.

(b) Yes, Sir. A large number of beedi workers belong to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes.

(c) to (f). Information is being collected and will be laid on Table of the House.

#### **Pending Cases with Industrial Tribunals**

1022 SHRI I. D. SWAMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 255, dated July 11, 1996 and state:

(a) if the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The requisite information is still awaited from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Pondicherry and Union Territory of Daman and Diu. The matter is being pursued vigorously. On receipt of the information, a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Programmes Under Commissioned Programmes

1023. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1724 dated July 25, 1996 regarding producers in Doordarshan and state :

(a) whether the requisite information in regard to part (c) has since been collected.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the time by which it is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All out efforts are being made to collect the information at the earliest.

#### Sick Iron Ore Mines

1024. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick iron ore mines in the country at present, State-wise.

(b) the reasons for their sickness.

(c) since when these mines have fallen sick.

(d) whether the Government propose to revive these mines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) There is no provision in the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules for furnishing information by the mine owners on sick mines.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Government has no specific scheme for revival of mines which have closed or work temporarily discontinued. However, where the closure is due to lack of demand, it is felt that steps taken to liberalise the economy and increase in industrial production would

result in increasing demand for minerals and to make operations of such mines economical.

[English]

#### Creation of Air Freight Cities

1025. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Government for the creation of air freight cities near Palam, Delhi for smooth operation of air cargo service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the proposed air freight cities are likely to come in existence?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This proposal envisaged setting up of a company with India Trade Promotion Organisation, Airports Authority of India, Haryana Warehousing Corporation, and Central Warehousing Corporation as promoters for establishing a comprehensive cargo storage/clearance facility in or around Chauma village in Haryana.

(c) No final decision has been taken on this proposal so far.

#### Revision in Wages and DA Formula for PSUs

1026. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether non-implementation of wage revision and new DA formula in public sector undertakings create a lot of industrial unrest and hardships to the workers; and

(b) if so, the time by which wage revision and new DA formula is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Government vide DPE's OMs dated 12.4.93 and 17.1.94 have delegated full autonomy to public sector enterprises for concluding long term wage agreements with their workers in accordance with the prescribed parameters. The new DA formula has been extended to the unionised staff and workers in PSUs vide DPE's OM dated 29.9.95. Revision of wages is therefore done by managements of individual undertakings in accordance with outcome of their negotiations and within the parameters laid down by the above Government guidelines.

#### Telecom Regulatory Authority

1027. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set-up Telecom Regulatory Authority of India;