

(a) whether Government proposed to streamline and make transparent the procedure of getting permit for introducing authorised International air services for foreign airlines;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) There is already an established Policy under which foreign airlines are granted traffic rights under bilateral air services agreement on the basis of reciprocity keeping in view the requirement of tourism, travel and international trade. Traffic rights are granted essentially to cater to the direct traffic between the two contracting countries.

Permission for Exploration of Mines

2200. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received by the Government for seeking permission for the exploration of rocks, conducting survey, mining and sales in larger areas during the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97; State-wise; and

(b) the number of cases cleared till December, 1996. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) and (b) Mining Rights are granted by the concerned State Government in accordance with provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 and the rules made thereunder. However, for minerals specified in the first schedule of the MM (R&D) Act no prospecting licence or mining lease shall be granted by the State Government except with the previous approval of the Central Government.

The number of proposals received for prior approval of the Central Government for grant of mineral concession and the number of cases disposed of during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (till December, 1996), State-wise are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Cases received and disposed of for Mineral Concession State-wise during the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and from 1.4.1996 to 31.12.1996

| Name of State | Year 94-95 1.4.94 to 31.3.95 | | Year 95-96 1.4.95 31.3.96 | | Year 1996 1.4.96 to 31.12.96 | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| | Recd./Disd* | Recd./Disd* | Recd./Disd* | Recd./Disd* | Recd./Disd* | Recd./Disd* |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 42 | 41 | 25 | 35 | 23 | 19 |
| Assam | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | -01 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Bihar | 11 | 11 | 14 | 20 | 6 | 9 | |
| Goa | - | - | 5 | 7 | 2 | 1 | |
| Gujarat | 30 | 27 | 9 | 6 | 23 | 16 | |
| Haryana | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | - | 1 | |
| Himachal Pradesh | - | - | 5 | - | 1 | 1 | |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | - | - | |
| Karnataka | 20 | 20 | 21 | 30 | 12 | 19 | |
| Madhya Pradesh | 144 | 141 | 125 | 180 | 47 | 53 | |
| Maharashtra | 3 | 3 | 17 | 25 | 13 | 12 | |
| Orissa | 43 | 38 | 61 | 70 | 19 | 20 | |
| Rajasthan | 19 | 17 | 29 | 38 | 23 | 21 | |
| Tamil Nadu | 50 | 50 | 33 | 40 | 27 | 20 | |
| Uttar Pradesh | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | |
| Kerala | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | - | |
| Meghalaya | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | |
| West Bengal | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | |
| Total | 374 | 360 | 360 | 462 | 196 | 195 | |

* (This includes the cases Brought forward from previous year)

[Translation]

Employment of All by the Year 2002

2201. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV:
JUSTIC GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Rojgar Ke Divaswapan Kab Tak' appearing in 'Jansatta' dated December 26, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the Committee on employment of the National Development Council has extended some suggestions to achieve the target fixed for providing employment to all by the year 2002 in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any concrete step is being taken by the Government to implement these recommendations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The National Development Council (NDC) Committee on Employment has recommended for vigorously pursuing the main elements of strategy, policies and programmes for increasing the pace of employment generation. The Eighth Plan envisages a strategy of accelerated employment generation through

faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas with relatively high employment intensity. Several Centrally sponsored/Central Sector special employment programmes are also being implemented by the Government, important among which are the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozagar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and the Two Million Jobs Scheme of the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC). Accordingly, the unemployment rate which was estimated to be around 3.77% during 1987-88 came down to 2.50% during 1993-94. It is expected that the strategy of employment intensive growth will be continued during the ensuing Ninth Five Year Plan also (2002).

Development of Bateshwar

2202. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had sanctioned Rs. 44 lakhs during the year 1992-93 for developing a religious shrine Bateshwar near Agra which is also important from tourism point of view;

(b) if so, whether the full amount has been utilised for the development of this areas;

(c) if so, the item-wise break up of the expenditure incurred;

(d) whether this area was declared a tourist place by the Union Government during 1995-96;

(e) if so, the schemes formulated by the Union Government for this purpose;

(f) whether the Union Government have received a scheme from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the development of this area; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (g) The Central Department of Tourism has not sanctioned Rs. 44.00 lakhs during the year 1992-93 for developing a religious shrine at Bateshwar near Agra. However, three projects subsequently were sanctioned for Bateshwar, namely:-

(1) Renovation/restoration of Ghat on the bank of river Yamuna - Rs. 13.24 lakhs.

(2) Tourist Lodge at Bateshwar - Rs. 13.95 lakhs.

(3) Two Sulabh Shauchalyas to provide toilet facilities - Rs. 6.76 lakhs.

The implementation of projects is primarily the responsibility of the State/U.T. Governments. These projects are at various stages of completion by the State Government.

Post Offices in Rajasthan

2203. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of post offices and sub-post offices functioning at present in Rajasthan and Maharashtra;

(b) whether these post offices are inadequate in view of the population of the above states;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to increase the number of post offices of each category;

(d) if so, the number of post offices proposed to be opened in the above states, in each category; and

(e) the time by which they are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Total number of Post Offices and Sub Post Offices functioning at present in Rajasthan and Maharashtra is given below:

| | Total number of Post Offices including Sub Post Offices | Total number of Sub Post Offices |
|-------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Rajasthan | 10,306 | 1392 |
| Maharashtra | 12,303 | 2087 |

(b) The average population served per Post Office in Rajasthan & Maharashtra is 4276 & 6417 persons respectively as against the national average of 5517 persons per Post Office. During the 8th Five Year Plan, 26 Departmental Sub Post Offices and 104 Extra-Departmental Branch Post Offices in Rajasthan and 61 Departmental Sub Post Offices and 172 Extra-Departmental Post Offices in Maharashtra, have been sanctioned.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to open 7 Extra-Departmental Branch Post Offices and 19 Departmental Sub Post Offices in Maharashtra and 4 Departmental Sub Post Offices in Rajasthan by March, 31, 1997.

[English]

Introduction of Trains Between Andal-Sainthia Section

2204. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the demand to run more trains in Andal- Sainthia section;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Representations have been received for running more trains on Andal-Sainthia section, including from Shri Basudeb