

Tourism Industry

2972. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Tourism industry unlikely to gain' appearing in Hindustan Times dated July 20, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the impact of devaluation of Indian rupee on tourism industry?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The depreciation of rupee is expected to benefit the tourism industry because all the items of expenditure except Indian airlines fares and hotel tariffs are quoted in rupee terms and as such the foreign tourists would find them cheaper in the country.

Allotment of Plot to Private Party by International Airports Authority of India

2973. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a plot near Palam, Delhi owned by the International Airports Authority of India has been allotted by the Government

to a Private party;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to conduct an enquiry into the matter; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a part of the airport infrastructure development, IAAI has allotted a plot of land measuring 6.9.21 acres for setting up a 5-Star Hotel near IGI Airport, Likewise, another plot of land measuring 4.9 acres (approx) has been allotted for setting up of a Motel near this airport. This allotment was made on the basis of open tenders and as per existing policies for allotment of lands for flight kitchens and hotels, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No irregularity has been brought to the notice of the Government in this matter.

[*Translation*]

Fire Incidents at New Delhi Station

2974. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of fire in 1st class/1nd class passenger coaches at New Delhi railway station during the last six months;

(b) the number of persons killed and the estimated loss of property in these incidents;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the causes of these fire incidents; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the personnel found responsible for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) There were five incidents of fire in 1st class/1nd class passenger coaches at New Delhi Railway Station during the period Feb.'91 to July'91.

(b) Nobody was killed in these fire incidents. The estimated loss of property is about Rs. 6.77 lakhs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No Railway staff has been found at fault in these fire incidents.

[English]

Chanderpur Power Project

2975. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to fund the Chanderpur power project in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be completed and the quantum of power likely to be generated thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The World Bank has agreed to fund the installation of 2 units (Unit No. 5 & 6) of 500 MW each of the Chanderpur Thermal Power Project of Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB). The first unit was commissioned in March, 1991 and the 2nd unit is envisaged to be commissioned in February, 1992.

Information facilities at arrival lounges

2976. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps contemplated by the In-

dian Airlines for better information facilities at arrival lounges;

(b) whether the Government propose to make available the list of passengers on incoming flights;

(c) whether all the major airports have fax, telex and STD phone facilities; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve such passengers' information service at the airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Flight information in arrival lounge is provided through display boards, customer service counter, announcements over public address system and CCTV.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). All major airports have STD phone facilities. While fax and telex services are presently available at the five international airports, such facilities are planned to be provided at 10 other airports. Flight information of Indian Airlines is also made available in teletext over Doordarshan in Delhi and by auto answering machines on three digits in Delhi and Bombay. The flight information facilities are being constantly up-graded.

Dispute between Indian Airlines and Airbus Industrie over Airbus A-320 deal

2977. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines and Airbus Industrie of France are involved in a dispute over the increased cost of the Airbus A-320 due to delay in taking its delivery;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to settle the matter; and

(c) the reasons for delay in taking delivery thereof?