

at its own level or against the proposals received from the States for tourism development; and

(b) the funds provided by the Union Government at its own level during the last three years, State-wise/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA):

(a) The Department of Tourism, Government of India extends central financial assistance to specific projects submitted by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations based on their merits, inter se priority and availability of funds.

(b) The central financial assistance provided to State Governments/Union Territories for the last three years is provided in the enclosed Statement.

Statements

S.No.	State	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	114.28	174.64	13.46
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.40	-	52.26
3.	Assam	78.11	52.99	70.24
4.	Bihar	53.61	112.12	116.52
5.	Goa	78.82	162.07	221.55
6.	Gujarat	65.76	21.19	7.93
7.	Haryana	223.21	188.96	119.45
8.	Himachal Pradesh	349.28	368.85	373.39
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	225.60	215.98	150.30
10.	Karnataka	177.44	229.96	229.36
11.	Kerala	97.40	307.05	209.94
12.	Madhya Pradesh	31.57	9.32	-
13.	Maharashtra	309.31	273.46	83.64
14.	Manipur	45.50	4.00	75.81
15.	Meghalaya	1.85	-	4.08
16.	Mizoram	88.18	111.80	100.86
17.	Nagaland	16.66	36.43	51.60
18.	Orissa	101.52	166.31	103.86
19.	Punjab	186.67	136.71	139.49
20.	Rajasthan	260.43	662.78	164.65
21.	Sikkim	130.89	49.07	24.61
22.	Tamil Nadu	402.45	145.72	250.11
23.	Tripura	15.07	46.61	33.43
24.	Uttar Pradesh	151.04	223.80	26.21
25.	West Bengal	167.30	144.01	191.10
Union Territories				
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	53.47	-	45.00

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Chandigarh	18.66	64.66	17.20
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	23.62	-
4.	Daman and Diu	12.03	42.31	44.21
5.	Delhi	117.23	116.50	28.23
6.	Lakshadweep	-	19.95	24.65
7.	Pondicherry	29.75	-	28.12
Total		3648.49	4110.87	3009.31

[English]

Introduction of Shatabdi Express between Salem and Bangalore

4161. SHRI K. KANDASAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the necessity of starting a Shatabdi Express between Salem and Bangalore via Dharmapuri; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to introduce a Shatabdi Express between Bangalore and Coimbatore via Dharmapuri and Salem during 1997-98.

Consumption of Coal by Steel Plants

4162. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of coking coal consumed by the integrated steel plants in the country during 1995-96;

(b) the quantity of coking coal imported during 1995-96 and the average cost thereof per MT;

(c) the quantity of low ash coal from Assam consumed by the steel industry in 1995-96 and the average cost thereof per MT;

(d) whether there is scope for increasing the consumption of Assam coal by the integrated steel plants so as to reduce imports of coking coal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) The total quantity of coking coal consumed by the integrated steel plants in the country during 1995-96 is as below :

	(In million tonnes)
SAIL	13.890
VSP	3.427
TISCO	2.872

(b) The quantity of coking coal imported during 1995-96 and the average landed cost thereof per tonne is as below :

	Quantity (Million Tonnes)	Average cost per tonne (including freight upto port) (In rupees)
SAIL	5.685	2240.00
VSP	2.575	2401.90
TISCO	0.883	2219.70

(c) The quantity of low ash coal from Assam consumed by the Integrated Steel Plants in 1995-96 and the average cost thereof per tonne is as below :

	Quantity (Million Tonnes)	Average Landed cost per tonne (including freight upto port) (In rupees)
SAIL	0.146	2150.00
VSP	0.020	2076.98
TISCO	0.046	2050.00

(d) and (e) Although Assam Coal is not a substitute for imported Coking Coal, yet SAIL plants are using Assam Coal as much as possible.

[Translation]

Functioning of Kusinagar Airport in U.P.

4163. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kusinagar airport in Uttar Pradesh is proposed to start functioning during 1997;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to start functioning; and

(c) whether the Government propose to allow the operation of air service from Gorakhpur airport till Kusinagar airport starts functioning?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c) Kusinagar airport belongs to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and Gorakhpur airport belongs to the Ministry of Defence. Airports Authority of India has no plans to upgrade these airports. Airlines are free to operate flights from these airports, keeping in view the traffic potential and economic viability.

[English]

Satellite National Network System for Airports

4164. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to set up a satellite based national network system for airports in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is being implemented on a built operate transfer basis;

(d) whether there are any overseas investors of Indian corporate houses willing to fund this scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which this system is likely to be made fully operational?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India is maintaining a vast communication network comprising of land-line tele-printer circuits, direct speech circuits, fax terminal and telex connections at 89 airports. To meet the future technological requirements in the field of aviation, it is proposed to switch over from land-line to satellite based tele-communication network. In the first phase, it is proposed to transfer all direct speech circuits and tele-printer circuits on to this network. In the second phase, network will be enhanced to provide extended direct VHF coverage and inter-connect radars etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The first phase of this network is expected to be operational in 1998.

Construction of Over Bridge

4165. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some requests regarding the construction of foot overbridge at Yerraguntala, allotment of sufficient funds for the construction of new Railway line between Nandyal and Yerraguntala to enable its early completion and non-transfer of Guntakal Railway Division to Bangalore zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) No request has been received for foot over bridge on