

**Expansion of Airports in U.P.**

2045. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand some airports and construct some new air strips in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details in regard thereto and the time by which the construction thereof is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) and (b). There is no plan at present to construct new air strips in Uttar Pradesh. However, extension and modification of the terminal complex at the Agra airport and construction of a new terminal complex at the Lucknow airport are contemplated for 1991-92.

**Ground Duties to Air Hostesses**

2046. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India has decided to entrust ground duties to the air hostesses after a certain age;

(b) if so, whether the said decision is being opposed by the employees' associations; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to stop implementation of the said decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The circular in question of Air India

is not discriminatory and there is no proposal to withdraw it.

**Losses Incurred by the Hotel Corporation of India**

2047. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:  
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hotel Corporation of India is running into loss;

(b) if so, the names of its units running in loss;

(c) whether the Government have decided to sell this company to private parties; and

(d) if so, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Except the Centaur hotel, Bombay Airport, other units are incurring losses.

(c) and (d). The Board of Air-India has decided that the Hotel Corporation of India should seek equity collaboration with an internationally reputed hotel chain willing to take over the marketing and management of the Hotel Corporation of India. This has become necessary on account of the high losses suffered by the HCI and its inability to compete effectively in the market.

[English]

**Permission to private agencies for operating Air Taxis**

2048. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH:  
SHRI RAMESH  
CHENNITHALA:  
SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given permission to certain private agencies for operating air taxis;

(b) if so, the number of agencies which have started air taxis and the details of zones/areas of their operations; and

(c) whether the pilots of the airlines have protested against this decision and if so, their demands and the Government's attitude towards this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As of now, Air Taxi Operators Permit has been issued to the following four parties;

1. M/s India International Airways Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
2. M/s Delhi gulf Airways Services Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
3. M/s Manak ji Aviation Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.
4. M/s Air Asiatic Ltd., Madras.

Air taxi operators are private non-scheduled operators. No routes are prescribed for them by the Government.

(c) Some unions of Indian Airlines had protested against the liberalisation of the guidelines relating to the operations. Government's policy have however been explained to them. While Indian Airlines would continue to be the dominant domestic carrier, air taxis would provide complementary services on routes not operated by the Indian Airlines and a measure of competition on routes that are operated by Indian Airlines.

Thus, there will be benefits to the travelling public and at the same time, the interests of the Indian Airlines would also not be affected.

[*Translation* ]

#### **Irregularities committed by official of DESU**

2049.DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a news item captioned " criminals in the grab of 'DESU' appearing in the 'Times of India ' dated 31 August, 1990;

(b) whether the Government have received the enquiry report in regard to the fire in jhuggis in January, 1990 on the banks of Yamuna near ITO, Delhi; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against those involved in the irregularities and named in the enquiry report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Oil refineries at Karnal and Mangalore**

2050.SHRI CHINTA MOHAN:

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:  
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:  
SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:  
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA  
NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state: