

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) The auctions were held at the Scindia House Regional Headquarters and also at Shadipur Depot of Delhi Transport Corporation. Auctions were held on 30th January, 6th, 7th, 13th and 20th February of 1988.

(b) The total income is Rs. 1.93 lakhs (excluding tax) and expenditure is Rs. 17,026.76

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

{English}

Breakthrough in Cancer Research

*444. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 1 March, 1988 captioned "Breakthrough in cancer research";

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of DNA binding proteins as mentioned in the news item are not available. Several DNA binding gene regulatory proteins have been identified. Implications of such studies in switching on or off cancer cell division are as yet highly speculative.

Experts Team on Desert Bio-Sphere Reserve

*445 SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has constituted a team of experts to prepare a report on establishment of desert Bio-Sphere reserve in Thar Desert;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the team; and

(c) whether recommendations of the team of experts have been considered by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The team has recommended setting up of a biosphere reserve in about 3,100 sq. km with a core area of approximately 600 sq. km. in Jaisalmer and Barmer districts of Rajasthan.

(c) The Project Report prepared by the team has been referred to the State Government of Rajasthan for their remarks.

Direct Flights Between Delhi-Portblair via Bhubaneswar

*446. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce direct flights between Delhi and Portblair via Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, when it is going to be implemented; and

(c) the steps taken by the Indian Airlines thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA.): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) and (c) Indian Airlines has plans to operate a service on the sector Delhi-Bhubaneswar Portblair and back on a limited frequency basis after the induction of additional Boeing 737 aircraft capacity.

[Translation]

Vayudoot Service in Bihar

*447. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister OF CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the original plan in regard to Vayudoot service in Bihar;

(b) the extent to which it has been implemented; and

(c) the future plan for expansion by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA) : (a) The original plan for airlinking of stations by Vayudoot services included the following stations in the State of Bihar :

1. Gaya
2. Muzaffarpur
3. Jamshedpur
4. Purnea

(b) Whereas Gaya and Jamshedpur have already been airlinked by Vayudoot services Purnea is yet to be airlinked. Vayudoot services to Muzaffarpur provided in the year 1982 were subsequently withdrawn due to poor load factor.

(c) Subject to availability of aircraft capacity, development of infrastructure and economic-viability of operations, Vayudoot has plans to airlink Purnea during the current plan period.

[English]

Navodaya Vidyalayas

*448. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Navodaya Vidyalayas opened in the country so far State-wise;

(b) the cost of these Vidyalayas and their recurring expenditure; and

(c) the total strength of the students teaching staff and non-teaching staff ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) The number of Navodaya Vidyalayas, sanctioned to be opened upto 1987-88 is 209. Out of these, 200 Vidyalayas have already started functioning Admission for the remaining 9 Vidyalayas (mostly in snow bound areas) is in process. A Statement showing the State-wise distribution of these Vidyalayas is given below.

(b) The cost of establishment of Navodaya Vidyalayas, both recurring and non-recurring, varies depending upon the number of classes in existence in each Vidyalaya. The budget estimates for the year 1987-88 have however been formulated on the following basis:—

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| (i) For Vidyalayas opened during 1985-86 | Rs. 15.00 lakhs for each Vidyalaya |
| (ii) For Vidyalayas opened during 1986-87 | Rs. 10.70 lakhs " |
| (iii) For Vidyalayas opened during 1987-88 | Rs. 7.50 lakhs " |

(The above estimates do not include capital costs on works which according to