

the ground-based and even space-based observations of astronomy-scientists tend to get distorted. This finding was also presented in a paper during the International Astronautical Federation Congress held in Bangalore during October 8-15, 1988.

(c) For the purpose of radio astronomy, specific frequency bands are reserved. It is also ensured that these frequencies are not used for any other purpose.

Six-Day Week In Government Offices

*235. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to go back to the old system of six working days in a week in the Union Government offices;

(b) whether Government have received representations in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). The 5-day-week system was introduced in the civil administrative offices since June, 1985 in consultation with the staff representatives under the JCM Scheme. The system has generally been well accepted and there is no proposal to revert to the six day week.

Co-Operation between India and USSR in Tourism and Civil Aviation

*238. SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the Soviet Union have agreed to cooperate in tourism and civil

aviation;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement entered into with the USSR; and

(c) by what time the agreement is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the Tourism Agreement are the facilitation of mutual increase of tourists by publicity measures by both Government and commercial firms, expeditious issue of visas, provision of necessary currency to travel and engage in technical cooperation in the tourism field including training of personnel.

Public Sector hotel companies and Private Sector Companies have entered into proposals to cooperate in the field of tourism. Till date two proposals for setting up of joint venture restaurants in USSR have been approved by the Government of India. The Delhi joint venture restaurant is functioning in Moscow since July, 1987 and the Indian partner for this venture is a public Sector Undertaking. The second joint venture restaurant at Odessa is being set up by a private hotel chain. Two other Indian companies are constructing 3 hotels on a turn key basis in Tashkent, Samarkand and Bukhara.

So far the Ministry of Civil Aviation have signed three Protocols with the USSR on the question of leasing and purchase of aircraft and airport equipment. Air India has already leased IL-62 M and IL-76 aircraft. Indian Airlines has evinced interest in leasing IL-86 aircraft and TU-514. Vayudoot is also interested in the purchase of YAK-42 and AN-28. The National Airport Authority are interested in purchase of Non Directional Beacon (NDB) Very High Frequency (VHF), Receiv

ers and transmitters, Very High Frequency Direction Finder (VHF-DF) and Air Route Surveillance Radars (ARSR).

(c) The provisions laid down in the Agreements are already under implementation.

Linking of All Defence Offices with One Telephone Exchange

*239. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' of 21 October, 1988 regarding Government's directive to reduce the number of telephones; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to link all defence offices with one telephone exchange in Delhi to bring about the desired economy in the expenditure on telephone calls?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir. These instructions were issued by Ministry of Finance in March, 1988.

(b) To link all Defence offices in Delhi with one telephone exchange is not technically feasible or economically viable. However, PAX, PBX and PABX exchanges have been installed wherever possible to economise on the expenditure on telephone calls.

Loss to Pawan Hans Ltd. on maintenance of Westland Helicopters

*242. SHRI C. JANGAREDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss incurred by Pawan

Hans Ltd. upto 30 September, 1988 including those on operation, maintenance, capital investment and all other recurring, casual and incidental items; and

(b) how does it compare with the findings about economic feasibility/viability during the "Financial Evaluation" of the Westland Helicopters before their acquisition was approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). Even though there has been a net cash accrual, the Pawan Hans Limited has incurred an estimated cumulative book loss of Rs. 17.68 crores upto 30.9.88. During this period the loss on account of operations of Westland as well as the Dauphin helicopters has been higher than that projected at the time of project approval.

Crime Against Children

*244. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases relating to crime against children and murders in Delhi during January to October, 1988 and the corresponding period in 1987;

(b) the number of cases reported during the last three months and the number of cases out of them in which information about crime committed was delivered by post to higher police authorities and also to the CBI offices;

(c) the number of persons arrested in such cases;

(d) whether postal intimations are ignored by the police and if so, the reasons therefor; and