

**SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD :** While I appreciate the Hon. Minister's anxiety to help the Indian system, is it true that 80 per cent of the Budget of the Central and State Government is spent on allopathy and that only 20 per cent is spent on Indian systems such as homoeopathy, ayurveda and unani. Now, 80 per cent of the people go to the Indian system not that they desire it, but because they cannot afford to go to allopathic system? What do the Government propose to do so that its anxiety to help Indian system is also manifested in the Central and State Budgets?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO :** It is true that the amount which we are spending on the allopathic system is very much more than what is being spent on the other systems combined. It is also true that where allopathic doctors are not available, the local systems are flourishing and people are taking to the local systems. In some places, all the systems are co-existing and it is a kind of cafeteria approach. A patient goes from system to system to system. Ultimately whichever system is good for him or gives him benefit, he plumbs for that system and takes the treatment under that system. From the patient's point of view, there is no particular prejudice against systems. What he wants is his own recovery and whichever system gives him recovery, that is the system for him. So, all these things are happening. But it is a fact that we have inherited a situation where the allopathic system has always been taking the lion's share out of our allocations. That will have to be slightly corrected. Not that the allopathic system will be given less but the other systems would have to be given more. That is the approach which will have to be adopted.

**SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the reply given by the Hon. Minister, he has very categorically stated that the number of Homoeopathic dispensaries in Delhi are the maximum in the country. Even though the Government plans to increase the number of homoeopathic dispensaries in the country, he is not sure whether this will be done in the case of Delhi or not. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether the number of homeopathic dispensaries in Delhi are sufficient to meet the requirement of this type of medicine in Delhi and if not what

the Government plans to do in the coming months. Also, I would like to ask whether the Government has formulated any Plan as to how the homeopathic dispensaries will be increased and which state will be getting what number of homeopathic dispensary?

**SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO :** The total number is 31 out of which 13 are in Delhi. Now, if we really have to expand, it only stands to reason that we should expand first in areas where there is none. That is the kind of approach we have adopted. I am not saying that we are not going to give at all to Delhi. That is matter which will have to take a secondary place in the scheme of things because we will have to think of places where there is none at the moment. As it is, the Seventh Plan does not have much money to spare for additional dispensaries. I said that if money becomes available during the Plan, may be after the mid-term appraisal, then we will think of expanding, if that is at all possible. But all this would have to be considered only in the Eighth Plan where a better deal has to be given to the indigenous systems.

Air India's General Sales Agent

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\*764. **SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :**  
**SHRI YASHWANTRAO**  
**GADAKH PATIL :**

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India is considering the appointment of a General Sales Agent in the United States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) to what extent this will result in saving in the cost of operating Air India's establishment in the USA; and

(d) whether such agents have also been appointed elsewhere?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir. Air India has appointed General Sales Agents in many parts of the world.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the revenue earnings of Air India from the U.S.A. Also, I would like to know whether there are any shortcomings in the Air India establishment in U.S.A. Does the Government receive any complaint above the shortcomings of the Air India establishment in U.S.A. ? You have admitted that Air India has appointed General Sales Agents in many parts of the world. What is the special reason for not appointing it in the U.S.A. ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, in America, there is the Anti-Trust Law. So, we cannot appoint any General Sales Agents in America. As far as I know, I do not have, at present, the revenue generated by the Air India's office in America. I can inform you later on.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : What about the shortcomings of Air India because there are some complaints ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Could you point out any shortcomings ? I will be able to answer it.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : I would like to know whether the passenger traffic is encouraging or not ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Recently, because of the terrorist threats and also of the accident of the nuclear station in Russia, there has been a great decline in the traffic from America. So, most of the people are concentrating on the traffic which is coming to this part of the world—mostly to Pakistan and mostly to India. Now, there is no doubt that with such a competition where there are more Airlines and Aircraft, the passengers going to towards this part of the world is less. There is a great competition and people have been outright cutting left and right. I would like to inform you that we have not appointed a consolidator because our position is a little better than the other Airlines. I have a list of other Airlines like KLM, Air France, TWA, Pan Am, Algeria, Singapore Airlines, Kuwait Airlines, Pakistan

Airlines, Air Canada; they have all appointed consolidators because their traffic is going down and they have to give more concessions. We also thought of it. It is not that we did not think of it. But then we found that we were able to generate a reasonably good traffic and there was no need to appoint a consolidator and so, we did not. Financially, we are not doing as bad as the others are doing it. But we do not have aircraft. We are going in for new aircraft and as soon as we go in for new aircraft, we will start more services to America.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : I would like to know what are the criteria for appointment of General Sales Agent ..

*At this stage some slogans from the Visitors' Gallery were heard and some leaflets/pamphlets were also thrown into the House.*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Gowda, carry on. Do not lock that side.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : I would like to know what are the criteria for appointment of General Sales Agents who have been appointed in many parts of the world, whether you are taking any security. I want to know what are the criteria, whether these criteria have been followed strictly and whether any of your agents have become a defaulter.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Air India has got a set criteria for appointing GSAs and some of the points, I would like to inform, are : productivity, capacity to sell traffic, financial standing, required bank guarantees, suitable premises, proper staffing, qualified person. These are the criteria for appointing agents. GSAs are appointed only when we find that there is a competition in the international market and you have to sell. I think, our experience has been, after the Air India appointed a GSAs in London, our sales have improved compared to the sales which were there at that time. I think, that was the question that he had asked.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No third question. Mr. Mohanty.

**SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY :** I would like to know what is the percentage of discount you have allowed to your agents to be given to customers. That is one. Another thing is whether the Ministers, MPs and government officers, who go on foreign tours, are eligible for that or not.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** Air India gives an agency commission as approved by the IATA, nine per cent.

**SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :** It has been pointed out that the operation to the U.S. by Air India is not much profitable. I would like to submit that Air India is operating to Gulf countries from India and those services are much profitable and there are requirements for more aircraft to take passengers from this side to the Gulf countries. The charges that are levied on those tickets are equal to those for flights to America; I mean, when compared, the charges are much higher. I would like to ask whether the Civil Aviation Department or Air India will consider the question of reducing the fare to the Gulf countries and also consider operating more flights from India stopping the operations to the U.S. as far as possible or reducing the trips there in view of the statement made by the Hon. Minister that it is not profitable.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER :** The fares are controlled by the international agency called IATA. Air India cannot on their own control it. We cannot withdraw any flights from any part of the world. We are already having a shortage of aircraft, but with our new Air Buses which have already come, we are re-scheduling and trying to give more aircraft to certain routes where there is traffic.

[Translation]

#### Bansagar project

\*765. **SHRI KUNWAR RAM :** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the original estimated cost of Bansagar project and the revised estimated cost till the time of its completion;

(b) whether the concerned States are contributing their share in time;

(c) if not, the number of times the meeting of the Bansagar Control Board was convened last year to consider this matter; and

(d) the outcome thereof ?

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :** (a) The original estimated cost of Bansagar Dam Project was Rs. 91.30 crores. The latest estimated cost (1984) is Rs. 371.39 crores.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). One meeting of the Bansagar Control Board called in February, 1987 could not take place.

[Translation]

**SHRI KUNWAR RAM :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want your protection. The first point of the 20-Point Programme is regarding irrigation. Whatever questions we have asked regarding irrigation projects so far or about which replies have been given in this House, it was never stated about any of the projects that it will be completed. As a result costs have escalated and the project which was estimated to be completed with Rs. 50 crores initially will now cost Rs. 500 crores. Still we have not been able to complete it. I had asked a very clear question and it was whether the State Governments are contributing their share and if they are not doing so, then what action has been taken in this regard ? But it was not replied to properly and it was answered with a simple 'No'. This sort of an answer will not suffice, because it is an important project. We want to know as to how many states have contributed as also the amount they have contributed and whether they have contributed their share and had there been any delay in it on their part and in case the delay was too much, then what justification was provided by them ? Finally, how many times the meeting of the Bansagar Control Board was convened to consider this matter ?