

**SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :** They must first make representation to the Rajya Sainik Board and try to solve the problem. If it is not solved, they can make a reference to us and we will use our good offices. We cannot order the State Governments as if they are subordinates.

**SHRI SATAYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY :** I would like to know whether his attention has been drawn to a news item that a good number of ex-servicemen have decided to return their medals and others decorations as a mark of protest because of the long-standing grievances remaining unsolved and also to protest against the negligence that is shown by the Government of India. If his attention has been drawn to this news item, what are the Government going to do? Are they going to invite them for talks to see that their grievance are removed?

**SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN :** Apparently, the hon. Member's attention has not been drawn to the news item, in which they have said that they are not going to surrender their medals and decorations and that they are satisfied with the discussions that they have had with the Raksha Mantri.

**DR SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY :** We must congratulate the Defence Minister. He has gone up 18,000 ft. and come back.

**MR SPEAKER :** Do you think he is so weak? He has gone upto 35,000 ft.

#### Restructuring and Rescheduling of Routes by Vayudoot

455. **SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Third Level Airline, Vayudoot is being restructured and its routes rescheduled ; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN) :** (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Government have considered it desirable to undertake a study of the organisational structure of Vayudoot, its present and future operations, economic viability thereof, etc. This study has been entrusted on 22.7.83 to Shri R. P. Billimoria, Chairman, Public Enterprises Selection Board and Part-time Chairman, Indian Airlines. The terms of reference of the study are as follows :

- (i) To formulate an organisational structure for Vayudoot keeping in view its present level of operations and the growth rate envisaged in the current year and the projected growth rate for the subsequent five years.
- (ii) To examine the operations of Vayudoot since its inception and to make recommendations in respect of its future pattern of operations with a view to making them viable.

**SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :** The appointment of the study team is a delaying tactic to divert attention from the main issue. There are some inaccessible areas in the country which should be linked for which the Third Level Airline is a must. In his statement he has referred to "its future pattern of operation with a view to making them viable". The question of money should not arise regarding this airline. In this very session of this august House, the hon. Minister has stated that since the inception of the Third Level Airline on 26th January 1981 the loss is about Rs. 2 crores. But how much is spent—the Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, can say it better—for the beautification of Delhi? The main reason for the loss. . . .

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) :** Beautification of the member? (*Interruptions*)

**MR SPEAKER :** You are not beautiful; you are handsome. You cannot use that adjective about a man.

AN HON. MEMBER : If that compliment was coming from a fair lady to him?

MR SPEAKER : I was just correcting grammatically an adjective. "Beautiful" is not a good adjective for a man.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : In order to minimise the loss, a short haul aircraft with less of fuel consumption is a must, a short haul commuter aircraft which could operate in very small runways in remote regions. Regarding the purchase of the aircraft, sometimes you speak of a Canadian aircraft, sometimes Australian, sometimes Swiss or French. You are not pursuing a single one. I feel there is some underhand business.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not concerned with what you feel; I am concerned that you are not putting the question. I am not really concerned about your thinking at present. But I am really concerned about the question you are putting.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : I would like to know very clearly the date by which the final report will come. Can the hon. Minister give the House a target date within which the short haul aircraft will be purchased?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : I would like to assure the hon. Member that this study has not been ordered to dilute the matter or to delay the matter in any way. In fact, I thought that it was essential now that the Vayudoot should be put on a sound footing and, therefore, it has been decided to conduct this study. I hope this study will be completed within eight weeks' time.

MR SPEAKER : A time-bound programme.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : As far as the new aircraft is concerned, Government have already taken a decision that the Dornier aircraft will be purchased for the Vayudoot. In view of the fact this aircraft will have to be purchased after negotiations with the manufacturers, which will certainly take some time, during this

period we will utilize our Avros and Fokker for operating these services. So, there is no problem about these services.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : How much time particularly will it take, whether it is six months or one year or two years?

(Interruptions)

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : As far as the question of negotiation is concerned, I am sorry I would not be able to give a definite answer.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Sir, there is a report in the press. I would like to know whether the Government is going to take the initiative and have a negotiation with the Bhutanese Airline, Druk Airways to conduct the flight of Paro-Thimpu-Hasimara - Coochbehar-Malda-Calcutta.

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : Sir, we propose to take advantage of this aircraft, but then if at all we will operate, this will be operated between Calcutta, Shillong, Silcher and Aizawal.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Sir, will the hon. Minister kindly state the routes on which Vayudoot has been showing losses and the routes on which it has been stopped?

SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN : Sir, most of the routes have been losing but recently we have found better results on Dehra Dun-Ludhiana-Kulu route.

SHRI ABDUL SAMAD : So far as the introduction of the Vayudoot service is concerned, there is a significant omission of the entire Southern States. Will the hon. Minister see to it that in the near future he will introduce services between Madras, Pondicherry and Tanjore, Vellore, Salem and Coimbatore?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : And Colombo also.

**SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN :**  
Sir, in the first instance, I would like to assure the hon. Member that we do not ignore any particular region or any particular side.

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL :** You have neglected Rajasthan completely.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Question No. 456—  
Shri Ghulam Mohd. Khan.

**National Rural Development Fund.**

\*456 : **SHRI GHULAM MOHAMMAD KHAN :**

**SHRI B. V. DESAI :**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of programmes of rural development inviting concession to tax-payers and other financial support ;

(b) whether in pursuance of the promise in this year's Budget, the National Rural Development Fund had been set up ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) :** (a) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The National Fund for Rural Development is yet to be set up.

#### Statement

For rural development only tax concessions are provided under section 35CC and 35CCA of the Income Tax Act. Illustrative list of categories of projects approved for rural development is annexed.

#### ANNEXURE

**ILLUSTRATIVE LIST OF CATEGORIES OF PROJECTS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO BE CONSIDERED**

**FOR APPROVAL BY THE PRESCRIBED AUTHORITY FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 35CC/35CCA OF THE INCOME-TAX ACT, 1961.**

1. Assistance in the setting up of rural industries in selected areas by the rural weak to provide them self-employment.
2. (a) Establishment and (b) running of dispensaries, maternity and child welfare centres and family welfare centres.
3. Nutrition programmes for school children.
4. (a) Establishment and (b) running of educational and vocational training centres.
5. (a) Construction and (b) maintenance of rural link roads, village streets, Pavements and drainage.
6. (a) Construction and (b) maintenance of drinking water projects, such as wells, tubewells, etc. and cleaning of wells and ponds.
7. Rural electrification, i. e. provision of street lighting in villages and electrification of Harijan/tribal homes.
8. Assistance to the weaker sections in constructing houses on sites provided in rural areas by Government, village panchayats, etc.
9. Minor irrigation schemes, including boring of tubewells and installation of pumping sets for the benefit of groups of small/marginal farmers.
10. Supply of improved varieties of seeds and provision of facilities for seed testing to groups of small/marginal farmers and assistance to such farmers for establishing seed farms.
11. Supply of fertilizers and insecticides to groups of small/marginal farmers and giving guidance and training to such farmers in the use of fertilizers, insecticides, etc.