

and Shri Rajinder Puri went to Ashoka Hotel and there is a remour in Delhi that tomorrow again, Ashoka Hotel may be ransacked. The Ashoka Hotel employees told me this. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it is the policy of the Government to dismantle the 5-Star hotels or whether the Government has plans to maintain two sets of hotels, one 5-Star hotels for foreign tourists, to cater to their needs and another Janata hotels for middle class people?

**श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक :** सरकार का कोई इरादा नहीं है कि जो पांच-सितारों वाले होटल हैं, उनको गिरा दिया जाये, लेकिन यह हमारी कोशिश है कि सम्पन्न लोगों के लिए जो सुविधायें जुटाई गई हैं उनके अलावा जो मध्यम वर्ग के लोग, बीकर सैक्शन आफ दि सोसायटी के लोग हैं, उनके लिए सस्ते आवास की व्यवस्था की जाय। मैं यह भी बतला दू कि आने वाले समय में हम पांच-सितारों वाले होटलों को एनकरेज करने वाले नहीं हैं, लेकिन इस का अर्थ यह नहीं है कि जो चल रहे हैं, उन को बन्द कर दिया जाये। जो चल रहे हैं, वे चलेंगे, उनके अलावा जो सामान्य साधन और प्राय वाले लोग हैं, उनके लिए हम सस्ते आवास की व्यवस्था करेंगे।

### Feeder Air Service in Kerala

\*472. SHRI GEORGE MATHEW: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to give financial assistance to the Government of Kerala to start feeder Air service to all the district headquarters to increase tourism;

(b) have the Central Government got any plans to link all the district headquarters in India, with Feeder Air Services to increase tourism; and

(c) have any of the State Governments asked for assistance so far to

link their district headquarters or tourist centres with Feeder Air Services?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In January 1978 the Madhya Pradesh Government desired to have advice of the Central Government in regard to suitability of aircraft with a provision of 18-20 seats; its price, and easy and acceptable terms of sale for the purpose of starting air services in the State, and also sought confirmation whether it will be possible for the Central Government to grant loan for the purpose. The State Government was informed that the question of connecting small towns and cities of tourist and other interests by Third Level operations is engaging the attention of Government, and the question whether the State Governments could be permitted to operate feeder services would be examined after a decision on Third Level operations is taken.

SHRI GEORGE MATHEW: It is very clear from the answer of the Minister that the Government has no plans to start third level operations from important cities and tourist centres. And only the Madhya Pradesh Government has enquired of the Central Government whether they have any plans for such operations and whether the Government will do any help to the State Government. Now, how long the Central Government would take to finalise these plans and change its policy? Now, it is just engaging the attention of the Government. When exactly would they start the third level operations because it comes under the Central Government?

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: A Committee was constituted to go into this. They have given the report and that is under examination. We are Taking it to the Cabinet. We have circulated papers to the concerned Mi-

nisters and I hope very shortly, we will be able to get their comments and the Cabinet will be able to take a policy decision in the matter.

**SHRI GEORGE MATHEW:** The Kerala Government has almost finalised plans to start a feeder air service from Trivendrum to Cochin and especially Calicut because it has no major airline service. It has also got plans to start feeder service between small towns and other tourist centres. The Minister has said that neither the Kerala Government nor any other State except Madhya Pradesh, has asked for any sanction. Will there be any objection to the plans of Kerala Government for starting feeders air service from Calicut and other places?

**SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK:** We shall have no objection if the States operate smaller aircrafts on their behalf. What we want to see is that from the Central sector under the third level feeder service, how many places we are able to serve in the first phase. We have already constituted a committee for that. If we are not able to serve all the places and some places are left out, then we shall permit the States as well as the private operators to operate on such lines where the Indian Airlines are not operating.

**SHRI PURNANARAYAN SINHA:** Sir, in regard to part (b) of the question, whether the Central Government has got any plans to link all the headquarters in India with Feeder Air Services, recently there was a move to start a third airline in the country particularly for service to the people in the backward and north-eastern region. May I know from the hon. Minister what further steps have been taken by the Government to acquire the aircraft from Canada, Australia and other countries, the smaller aircraft of 16 to 17 passengers capacity? I want to know whether they will be introduced and if they will be introduced, when they will be

introduced in the North-Eastern sector in order to connect the small district head quarters to facilitate the movement of the people and the tourists also in that region.

**SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK:** Sir, we have received about 7 or 10 proposals from 7 or 8 companies for small aircraft of 15 to 20 seats. Therefore, we are going to appoint a technical Expert Committee which will go to examine those aircrafts and then a decision will be taken for this type of aircraft.

**SHRI A. SUNNA SAHIB:** May I know from the hon. Minister whether Kozhikode... ..

**AN HON. MEMBER:** It is Calicut.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The present name of Kozhikode.

**SHRI A. SUNNA SAHIB:** May I know whether the hon. Minister has a definite proposal to start a pucca aircraft from Kozhinkode which is much needed and about which there has been a lot of agitation?

**MR. SPEAKER:** That does not arise.

**SHRI S. R. DAMANI:** Sir, it is very essential that small towns and small cities are connected with air services so that they can develop. Therefore, may I know from the hon. Minister by what time he is going to take a decision to allow the States or to give licences to the private companies to operate the air services in these small towns so that they can develop?

**SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK:** As I stated, after taking a final decision on Third Level Operations, we shall be permitting them to operate on the lines where the Indian Airlines are not operating.