

**SHRI Z. R. ANSARI :** As far as planting of this herbal plant is concerned, we have a scheme and we have provided Gujarat, Manipur, North-Eastern Council States and U.P. certain amount for growing plants of medicinal value.

[Translation]

**SHRI ARVIND NETAM :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the medicinal plants are brought into the market from the areas where these are grown, their prices escalate. But the people who are engaged in actually growing these plants in jungles are unaware of their market prices. Is this not a case of wanton exploitation? A day will come when only the medicinal plants would be grown in view of their commercial value and this could destroy these plants. May I ask the hon. Minister if the Government has any separate Scheme for this?

**SHRI Z. R. ANSARI :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the existing system, tribals residing in forest areas have greater knowledge of medicinal plants than anyone else. Medicinal plants are brought from forests by the tribals as a minor forest produce and sold through middlemen. I do not deny that where there are middlemen exploitation is there. So, a certain amount of exploitation may be there. This matter definitely needs a close look. So far as the question of growing medicinal plants is concerned, I have given the reply.

[Translation]

**Airlink for Khajuraho from Bombay-  
Calcutta**

\*432. **SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA :** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a proposal to introduce new air service between Bombay-Aurangabad-Bhopal-Khajuraho - Calcutta with a view to connect Khajuraho direct with Bombay and Calcutta;

(b) if so, the time by which this

important air service is likely to be started and;

(c) whether survey of this route has been conducted from commercial point of view?

[English]

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

(b) While there is no proposal to connect Khajuraho with Calcutta, a proposal to connect Bombay, Aurangabad and Bhopal with Khajuraho is under consideration which would depend upon the availability of traffic and additional aircraft capacity.

(c) No, Sir. Indian Airlines is, however, doing the survey on the route mentioned in part (a) of the Question.

[Translation]

**SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation has given the answer in the affirmative. But this has been so for the last 2-3 years. For the past 3 years the Madhya Pradesh Government has continuously been sending proposals to connect Khajuraho with Bombay-Aurangabad-Delhi and Calcutta.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Shri Bhanu, please see how far it is in the affirmative.

**SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA :** Keeping in view the number of aircraft available, may I know whether the Government will seriously consider connecting Khajuraho with Bombay, Aurangabad and Calcutta and whether there is any time-bound programme in this regard?

**SHRI MOTI LAL VORA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the proposal received from the State Government relates to the introduction of an air service between

Bombay-Aurangabad-Bhopal and Khajuraho. Without moving away from the Government's past practice, I assure the hon. Member that this long-standing demand would be fulfilled soon. In the coming 3-4 months an air service on the basis of a time-bound programme would be introduced between Bombay-Aurangabad-Bhopal and Khajuraho.

**SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA :** Similarly, there is an important air service between Delhi, Bhopal and Nagpur. Many hon. Members of Parliament have suggested that this service should be made daily instead of 4 days a week. May I know the Government's reaction thereto?

**SHRI MOTILAL VORA :** As I have already discussed with the hon. Member, 4 days a week flight between Delhi, Bhopal and Nagpur would be made regular with the arrival of five new aircraft likely to be received in June.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Pratapji, you have achieved a lot today.  
(*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI :** This relates to my constituency. Will you not allow me to ask a question?

**MR. SPEAKER :** Your constituency has already been connected.

[*English*]

**SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :** Sir, for promoting tourism... (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER :** Order, order.  
(*Interruptions*)

**SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :** For promoting tourism, the Department has started the flight between Delhi-Khajuraho Aurangabad earlier. So, why should there be delay in starting it again; why can't it be done in fifteen days?

**MR. SPEAKER :** The Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

### Eradication of Leprosy

\*426. **SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are committed to total eradication of leprosy by 2001 A.D.;

(b) if so, the details of the Action Plan and yearly inputs and targets laid down; and

(c) whether the present tempo and progress on supply of drugs/vaccines and other steps are sufficient for fulfilment of these targets?

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTILAL VORA) :** (a) to (c) The goal of National Leprosy Eradication Programme is to arrest disease activities in all the leprosy cases in the country by the year 2000 A.D.

2. The Action Plan for this purpose includes :—

(i) Creation of infrastructure for early detection and regular treatment of leprosy cases. The infrastructure created upto March, 1987 all over the country is as follows :

(a) Leprosy Control Units/  
Modified Control Units—601

(b) Urban Leprosy Centres—919

(c) Survey, Education and  
Treatment Centre—6937

(d) Temporary Hospitalisation  
wards—294

(e) Leprosy Rehabilitation Pro-  
motion Units—11