

(b) the share of assistance, out of it, provided to Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation of Karnataka during the said period;

(c) whether the assistance for this Corporation of Karnataka was quite inadequate; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to increase the share of Karnataka in the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The budgetary provision made for providing assistance to SCDCs in last three years is as under :-

Year	Budget Provision
1993-94	Rs. 22.00 Crores
1994-95	Rs. 22.00 Crores
1995-96	Rs. 30.00 Crores

(b) The Assistance provided to Karnataka Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation during last three years is as under :-

Year	Assistance (Govt. of India share)
1993-94	Rs. 212.35 Lakhs
1994-95	Rs. 310.21 Lakhs
1995-96	Rs. 585.31 Lakhs

(Rs. 485.31 lakhs represents arrears of 1994-95)

(c) Under the scheme State Government and Central Government participate towards the Share Capital of Corporation in the ratio of 51:49

The details of State and Central Assistance received by Corporation of Karnataka in last three years is as follows:-

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	State Share	Central Share
1993-94	100.00	212.00
1994-95	828.00	310.21
		485.31 (released in 1995-96 as arrear of 1994-95)
		<u>795.52</u>
1995-96*	539.00	100.00

* Due to non-availability of adequate funds in the schemes in 1995-96, Central Share in entirety could not be released

(d) For the current year there is no increased budgetary allocation. The current year allocation is only Rs. 30 crores. Increase in share capital assistance from central budget is possible only with increased availability of funds.

Financial Assistance for Development of Tourism

954. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAM DAS PATEL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :-

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided by the Union Government to Gujarat for the development of tourism during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the projects/historical places for which this assistance has been utilised; and

(c) the details of the proposals pending with the Union Government for clearance of financial assistance during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) :

(a) The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned financial assistance amounting to Rs. 94.93 lakhs to Gujarat Government for the development of tourism during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96.

(b) The projects assisted include the following :-

1. Tourist Complex at Nalsarovar
2. Cafeteria at Porbandar
3. Floodlighting of Somnath Temple
4. Tourist Lodge at Kuda

(c) For the year 1996-97, it has been agreed in principle to provide assistance for the following projects as and when the state govt. submits complete and detailed proposals

1. Flood lighting of Dwarkadheesh Temple at Dwarka.
2. Refurbishment of monument, Sun-Temple at Modhera
3. Refurbishment of monument Step-well at Modhera.
4. Public Convenience at Ambaji.
5. Flood lighting of Lakhota Palace Jamnagar

There are no proposals pending for financial assistance with the Department of Tourism for 1995-96

Shortage of Aircrafts in AI

955. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Air India is facing shortage of aircrafts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). Air India's present fleet of 26 owned and 5 wet leased aircraft is sufficient to operate

its current schedule of operations. Air India has placed order with M/s Boeing Company for acquisition of two B 747-400 aircraft as part of the exercise to renew its fleet and partially to augment capacity.

Creation of Tourism Task Force

956. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Tourism Task Force was created by the India Tourism Development Corporation in 1991;

(b) if so, the objectives therefor;

(c) the expenditure incurred on the above Force so far;

(d) the extent to which the said Tourism Task Force has achieved the objectives; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA)

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Tourism Task Force was set-up in May 1991 with the primary objective of promoting camping tourism, adventure tourism and tourism to new destinations.

(c) A total amount of Rs. 147.48 lakhs was incurred on the Tourism Task Force upto closure of the Tourism Task Force in Dec. 1994.

(d) and (e) The Tourism Task Force has met its objectives of promoting camping and adventure tourism by introducing the concept and providing necessary expertise to the State Governments to set up similar camps, organise fairs and festivals and promote unique destinations.

Concession in Telephone Tariff in Hilly Areas

957. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have announced significant concession in telephone tariff to PCO operators in rural and hilly areas;

(b) if so, the main features of the new package;

(c) whether this concession package has created a large amount of revenue loss to the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir. No tariff concessions to PCO operators in rural and hilly areas have been announced by the Government.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

EPF Scheme

958. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend Employees Provident Fund scheme for labourers in unorganised sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 is applicable to factories/establishments employing 20 or more persons. In the matter of coverage and entitlement to benefits, the Act makes no discrimination between organised and unorganised sectors. As such, all the establishments employing 20 or more persons in the unorganised sector are already coverable under the EPF Scheme.

[Translation]

Serials of Freedom Fighters

959. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast a serial based on the lives of the leading spirits of the freedom fighters in Bihar;

(b) whether the Government have received such proposals from the State; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Doordarshan has decided to telecast suitable programmes based on the lives and activities of freedom fighters as a part of celebration of 50 years of India's Independence. For production of such softwares, Doordarshan is receiving proposals from outside producers. Proposals based on freedom fighters from Bihar will also be considered alongwith others.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Rented Buildings

960. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1458 on March 12, 1996 regarding rented buildings and state

(a) whether the required information has been collected and laid on the table of the House;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason for delay in collecting the information?