

in order to give a boost to the setting up of joint ventures:

(b) if so, the details there of;

(c) whether any difficulties are being faced in working out a viable strategy for trade promotion : and

(d) if so, the likely impact thereof on trade with the a Commonwealth of Independent States(CIS)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b). Government of India is in the process of devising a model Bilateral Investment Protection Agreement. 40 comprehensive agreements on double taxation avoidance covering income of different kinds have been notified.

(c) and (d). There are no specific or major difficulties being faced in working out a viable strategy for trade promotion. No trade with the CTS, which is indeed already showing a growing trend.

Runway at Vijayawada Aitport

3682. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the length of runways at Cochin, Calcutta, Madurai Coimbatore, Vesakhapatnam and vijayawada airports;

(b) whether Boeing aircraft are operated to and from all the above airports except Vijayawada airport:

(c) whether the Government propose

to expand the runway at the Vijayawada Airport to facilitate operation of Boeing aircraft from there,

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):(SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The requisite information is as follows:-

<i>Airport</i>	<i>Runway iength</i>
Cochin	6000 ft.
Calicut	6000 ft.
Madurai	5990 ft.
Coimbatore	7500 ft.
Vijayawada	5925 ft.
Visakhapatnam	6000 ft.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). The National Airport Authority (NAA) has a proposal to develop Vijayawada airport for Boeing-737 operations. However, due to financial constraints the project is held in abeyance.

Tariff for Hotel Industry

3683. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVJATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently asked the hotel industry to fix tariff in terms of rupee and dollar;