

Marketing and Reservation tie-ups with overseas airlines and travel agents, introduction of special package programmes for promoting domestic tourism, and by participation in World travel trade forums.

A High Powered Inspection Committee constituted by the ITDC undertakes review of performance of its various units from time to time and suggests remedial measures to improve their performance.

"Ecological Damage in Andhra Pradesh"

2417. SHRI VIJAYA KUMAR RAJU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the ecological damage done in the various areas of West and East Godavari Districts in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any Soviet team has been sent to this area to make an assessment; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to stop further ecological damage and deforestation to this area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shifting of Avro Servicing Centre from Hyderabad to Madras

2418. SHRI VIJAYA KUMAR RAJU : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to shift the Avro Servicing Centre from Hyderabad to Madras;

(b) whether some of the staff of this Centre have already been transferred to Madras in this connection; and

(c) if so, the reasons for such a move ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Trade with Tibet

2419. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether China has proposed to resume trade with Tibet by the old traditional land route; and

(b) if so, the reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) :

(a) During the third round of official level talks held with the Chinese Government in 1982, the latter had raised the matter of a possible resumption of border trade between India and the Tibet Autonomous Region of China.

(b) The proposal is under consideration.

Functioning of Vayudoot

2420. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made about the functioning of the Vayudoot i.e., its financial viability and ability to cope with public demands for the service;

(b) what are the plans for expansion of the service to cover new places during the next five years; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to acquire better aircrafts for this service ?