

(b) if so, the reasons for not electing the Directors as per the bye-laws; and

(c) when the Directors were elected last and the steps taken to hold the elections for Directors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Election of Directors was last held on 30-12-1985 under the old bye-laws which require an election once in 2 years. However, new bye-laws were framed on 10.4.87. A writ petition was filed by some of the elected Directors/Delegates challenging the new bye-laws. Steps to hold the election for Directors will be taken after the decision of the court.

[English]

Earthquake Recording Centre in Bihar

6756. SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the earthquake that rocked certain areas of Bihar in August, 1988;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up an earthquake recording centre in these affected areas; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A network of 79 seismological observatories is already functioning to monitor earthquakes all over the north and northeastern region including the area affected by the August 1988 earthquake.

Travel Agencies

6757. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of recognised travel agencies operating in the country at the end of December 1988, State-wise; and

(b) the specific terms and conditions for operation of such tourist agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). The Department of Tourism has a scheme for recognising travel agencies provided they fulfil certain conditions laid down by the Department. The rules as applicable to travel agencies are given in the statement below.

The number of travel agencies as on 31-12-1988 State-wise is as follows:—

Assam-1, Andhra Pradesh-8, Bihar-2, Chandigarh (U.T.)-2, Delhi (U.T.)-42, Goa-3, Gujarat-5, Jammu & Kashmir-3, Karnataka-16, Kerala-10, Maharashtra-47, Madhya Pradesh-1, Pondicherry (U.T.)-2, Rajasthan-1, Tamilnadu-23, Uttar Pradesh-4 and West Bengal-19.

STATEMENT

Rules for Recognition as Travel Agents

1. All applications for recognition shall be addressed to the Director General of Tourism, Transport Bhavan, No. 1, Parliament