

national arrival; departure and baggage claim areas.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Sir, I am happy that the answer to part (d) of the question is 'Yes'. I would like to know whether the Government will rearrange the take-off timings. For instance, in the evening, the flight to Madras via Hyderabad and the flight to Bombay take off simultaneously, with the result that there is no sitting place either before check up or after check up. So, I would like to know whether they will rearrange the take-off timings so that the passengers can have the time to go in for check up and also have sufficient place to sit there. The same thing is there in the morning also. So, will the Government think of changing and rearranging the take-off timings, especially of heavy flights at busy airports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAININGS, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : We can certainly think of changing the flight timings, but the fact remains that there are constraints in staggering the domestic flight timings because there is a preference by passengers for the early morning flights and also because we have to enable the aircraft to perform more sectors and perform more flights a day. As far as the seating arrangement is concerned, there are, at the moment, more than 240 seats in the transit lounge, mostly meant for elderly people and for mothers with infants. We shall certainly see, without cramping everything, whether it can be augmented.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : In answer to (e), the hon. Minister has said that international airport is coming up and after that complex is completed, this will be taken up. May I know how much time will it take in our efforts to make Delhi Airport modern and up-to-date and take it to the 21st century ?

Now, the passenger has to get up, get down and get up instead of straight walking from the gate into the airport. How long will it take for us to have that facility ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : First let them bring the airport to the 21st century.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : This question has been answered earlier during this session in both the Houses. By November 1985 this international terminal will be ready. By that time a lot of these difficulties will be removed.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA : It is often experienced that flights are delayed on account of delay in security clearance. It is perhaps on account of deficiency in the number of security points at the airport and also sometimes because X-Ray machines are not working. Will the Government look into this question from both points of view ?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : It is a very useful suggestion.

SHRI D.N. REDDY : Will the hon. Minister inform the House whether the Government intends to make Hyderabad an international airport ? If so, when ?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : There are certain norms and it will be looked into accordingly.

Development of Bhim Band in Munger District (Bihar) as a Tourist Centre

***235. SHRIMATI MANORMA SINGH :** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Bhim Band in Munger District in Bihar where hot water springs exist is an important picnic spot on account of its scenic beauty and springs;

(b) whether Government are also aware that this place has great potential for being developed into a tourist resort; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to develop it as a tourist spot, such as, opening a motel, development of forests, etc. ?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI AHMED M. PATEL) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below :

Statement

(a) to (c). Keeping in view the tourist potential of Bhim Bandh in Monghyr District of Bihar, the Department have included this centre in the list of 28 Centres identified by the Department in consultation with the State Government for phased development through the combined resources of the Centre, State and the private sector.

There are no schemes at present under the consideration of the Central Department of Tourism for development of Bhim Bandh as a tourist resort. Apart from the existing accommodation available in the Rest Houses managed by Divisional Forest Officer and the Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Monghyr, the State Department of Tourism are providing financial assistance to the State Forest Department for the construction of a cafeteria and a dormitory type of accommodation. The work on the dormitory type of accommodation has already been completed.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MANORMA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are a number of hot water springs of varying degrees of temperature within the periphery of about half a mile around Bhim Bandh and a number of wild animals are also found there. Perhaps, we do not have such a large number of hot water springs elsewhere and this place is also a fine health resort. Under these circumstances, by when the Government propose to develop this place as a tourist centre by providing all tourist facilities ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : Sir, as the answer is indicative, this is one of the 28 which have been identified to be taken up. We are in

consultation with the State Government also. The State Government itself is spending money to the tune of about Rs. 3 lakhs in developing certain facilities; and depending on the priority of the scheme in the Seventh Plan we shall take it up.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MANORMA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this place is situated at an hour's journey from Jamui station on the main line of Eastern Railway. There are a number of places of pilgrimage of Jains and thousands of Jain pilgrims visit these places every year. Do Government purpose to develop this entire complex as a tourist centre ?

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : I will have to enquire from the Railway Ministry.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : There is a place named Netrahat in Ranchi district of Chhota Nngpur region which is situated at the height of more than 3,000 feet and is the only picturesque place in Bihar. When Shri A.P. Sharma was the Minister of this Department and Shri Srivastava the Secretary, it was decided that Rs. 35 lakhs would be spent on opening a three-star hotel in Netrahat. Report to this effect had also appeared in newspapers and broadcast by A.I.R., but that work has not been done so far.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This has nothing to do with Chhota Nagpur.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : This is the most scenic place in Bihar. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would pay attention to it ?

MR. SPEAKER : No. At least you should put the question correctly.

[*English*]

SHRI D.P. YADAV : It relates to my constituency Monghyr and so I am putting the question. Sir, a question has been put to the hon. Union Minister and the answer is what the State Government has done. I request the hon. Minister to look back at the pre-pages of his file where he will find that Bhimband had been included in the Tourist Circuit, but unfortunately nothing could be done during the Sixth Plan period. Sir, in view of the fact that there is huge quantity of hot and cold water which is emerging from the springs in this region, will the hon. Minister consider developing this place as a Spa, on the pattern of Austria ?

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : We shall certainly consider it.

SHRI D.P. YADAV : I did not follow.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : This is one of the 28 centres which have been identified in consultation with the State Government. We shall certainly consider it. We will certainly consider what the hon. Member has suggested.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say that it should not be confined to Manghyr only because there are a number of tourist spots in Bihar...(*Interruptions*)...Netrahat (Chhota Nagpur), Hundru Fall (Ranchi), Jolha Fall (Ranchi) and Baraver Hill (Gaya) are very important tourist spots in Bihar. I want to know whether Government will prepare some comprehensive programme for their development during the Seventh Five Year Plan so as to facilitate economic development of a backward State like Bihar ?

MR. SPEAKER : No.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : We shall pay attention to it.

[*English*]

ITDC Consultancy Service

*238. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. has entered into certain agreements with Hotel managements abroad for rendering consultancy service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the failure of the managements of various ITDC hotels in raising the rate of occupancy and the standard of service to clients has also been looked into by the Consultancy Division of ITDC; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action proposed to improve the general services in these hotels ?

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) to (d) A statement is given below :—

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The India Tourism Development Corporation has entered into the following agreements with hotel projects abroad for providing feasibility studies, technical and project assistance at design, planning and construction stages and post-construction, management and marketing services :

- (1) Messrs Lotus Hotels Ltd., Limassol, Cyprus.
- (2) Hotel Projects at Mosul and Doka in Iraq.
- (3) Jaya Hotel International at Kathmandu, Nepal.

The above arrangements have been entered into on a commercial basis.

(c) and (d). The Consultancy Division of ITDC is concerned with providing consultancy and management services to hotels other than those owned by the ITDC.

The overall occupancy in ITDC hotels has improved to 48% in the first quarter of