

Shortage of Civil Air Pilots

*428. **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**
Shri Kindar Lal:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of civil air pilots as a result of which the expansion of air transport in the country has been greatly retarded;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to remove this shortcoming in the way of the expansion of our air transport?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). At present there is no shortage of civil air pilots. Commercial pilots available in the open market and qualified pilots released by Air Force at intervals, meet the requirements of the scheduled as well as non-scheduled operators. Shortage of pilots was however felt in the recent past by the two Air Corporations owing to their extended operations and adherence to certain flight and duty time limitations.

(c) Steps were taken for recruitment of pilots and arrangements were also made to train suitable candidates, through selected Flying Clubs, for issue of Commercial Pilot's Licence.

Loan for Calcutta Port Trust

*429. **Shri B. K. Das:**
Dr. M. M. Das:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the loan of Rs. two crores to the Calcutta Port Trust,

provided in the Budget Estimates of 1966-67, has been paid to the Trust;

(b) if so, the development works that will be carried on with this loan; and

(c) the conditions, if any, on which the loan has been given to the Trust?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) A loan amounting to Rs. 225 lakhs has so far been given to the Calcutta Port Commissioners during the financial year 1966-67.

(b) The details of the development works that will be carried out with this loan are as follows:

- (1) Improvement and extension of the Marshalling Yard.
- (2) Construction of an office building for the Traffic Department in the Dock area.
- (3) Construction of three launches for 3 dredgers.
- (4) Construction of a Tea Warehouse at the Lybian Depot.
- (5) Building the Bucket Dredger 'AJAY' and two Hopper barges.
- (6) Replacement of No. 2 Swing Bridge.
- (7) Re-circulation of Dock water in the Kidderpore Docks.
- (8) Expansion of one arm of the King George's Dock.
- (9) Purchase of Plant and Machinery for the Commissioners' Workshops.
- (10) Construction of a new Hospital for the Commissioners' employees, and
- (11) Haldia Dock Project works including acquisition of land for this purpose.