

Floating Dock at Visakhapatnam

*538. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) at what stage is the proposal to have a floating Dock at Vishakhapatnam;

(b) what is the estimated cost of the project; and

(c) the likely foreign exchange component of the same?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (**Shri Raj Bahadur**): (a) Under preliminary stage of consideration by the Hindustan Shipyard.

(b) Roughly Rs. 150 lakhs.

(c) It is difficult to indicate at this stage the amount of foreign exchange required for the project.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The Ship Repairs Committee had recommended the construction of a dry Dock. It could not be taken up for want of foreign exchange. May I know when a decision on the construction of the floating Dock will be finalised?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The same difficulty is coming up in respect of the floating Dock. But we are trying to find out what we can do about it.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Is there going to be any foreign collaboration in the construction of the floating Dock?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That may also be a matter which will be taken up for consideration.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the four jetties that are being constructed there will be completed before this is taken up?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The project regarding floating Dock or dry Dock is completely different from that question. That question will be considered on its own merits.

Re. Question 542.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Radha Raman has written to me that his question No. 542 may be given preference for being answered in one or two minutes that are left. Is it the pleasure of the House that I may take it up?

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 542 may be answered.

International Civil Airport at Delhi

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*542. { **Shri Radha Raman:**
Shri A. M. Tariq:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri B. C. Mullick:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate constructing any International Airport in Delhi near Ghaziabad in the near future to meet the growing air traffic of the Capital;

(b) if so, what are the details of this airport and the probable period by which it might be ready with special features, if any; and

(c) when constructed what changes will take place in the airports at Palam and Safdarjung?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) The question whether a separate International Civil Airport should be constructed for Delhi at a place other than Palam is still under consideration, but in the meantime a new runway is being constructed at Palam for use by Boeing Jet aircraft.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether Government have already acquired some land for this purpose either at Ghaziabad or any other place?

Shri Mohiuddin: No, we have not acquired any land.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know how long will it take to finalise the consideration of the establishment of an International Civil Airport in Delhi, and how long will it take to come into existence?

Shri Mohiuddin: I cannot say how long it will take for a separate International Airport to be constructed. But the runway which is now under construction at Palam will be about 10,000 ft. long and it will be serviceable for the heaviest jet plane of the type of Boeing 707.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

So far as such questions are concerned, I find it difficult to decide. There are differences of opinion as to whether any particular question is important or not. Personally, I do not see how this particular question is very important. Therefore, I would not like to ask the opinion of the House unless the hon. Member takes care to give me intimation before the work of the day begins in which case I will be in a position to find out whether it is really necessary or useful. I have to elbow out some other questions also which may be equally important.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

D.T.U. Buses

***530. Shri Pramathanath Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many buses run by Delhi Transport Undertaking are not road-worthy;

(b) what steps are being taken to make them road-worthy; and

(c) whether the D.T.U. workers have demanded that these buses be made road-worthy to avoid delays, accidents and break-downs on the roads?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No demand of the nature mentioned by the Hon'ble Member has been made by the workers. However, a complaint about some defects in certain buses, was made by the DTU Workers' Union during their agitation in August, 1959 and the matter is under investigation by the Municipal Commissioner.

**Electric Train from Asansol to
Rourkela**

***531. Shri B. C. Mullaik:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 303 on the 16th February, 1959 and state:

(a) the progress achieved so far for the running of electric trains between Asansol and Rourkela; and

(b) what amount of money has been expended for this work upto the end of January, 1960?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The work is in progress and is expected to be completed according to the Schedule i.e. before the end of the 2nd Plan Period.

(b) Rs. 3,07,31,489.

Water in Railway Compartments

***532. Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the complaints that the water in the water tanks of the railway compartments comes to a boiling point in summer during day time and cannot be used; and

(b) whether Government are going to provide insulators or any other device to keep the water in the railway compartments cool in summer?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No complaints have been received to the effect that water in the carriage tanks comes to boiling point during summer,