

### Merger of Air Corporations

\*1299. **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose a merger of the two Indian airlines, Indian Airlines Corporation and Air India International Corporation, into a single Corporation; and

(b) if so, the nature of this merger?

**The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri A. Mohiuddin):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know whether originally a suggestion was made for consideration of experts and authorities of the two airlines for merger in view of the cost structure and because the operations in some routes are identical?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** I am not sure of what experts the hon. Member is referring to. As far as I remember, the question has not arisen as regards integration or amalgamation of these two corporations.

**Shri Hem Barua:** In view of the fact that IAC is a semi-international institution, because it flies to Ceylon, Burma, Pakistan and other countries, could not the question of international obligations, as also the balance of payments, be avoided if the two corporations are brought under one management?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a suggestion for action.

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** When the Estimates Committee examined the AII and IAC, they recommended that the two organisations should be merged, and when I put a question in this House, the concerned hon. Minister at that time, who has subsequently taken up some other portfolio, assured that the matter will be finalised soon. Since then much water has flowed in the Jamuna.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know whether the Estimates Committee has made a recommendation and, if so, did the hon. Minister give an assurance that the matter will be considered? At what stage is it now?

**Shri Mohiuddin:** The Estimates Committee had recommended that the question may be reviewed from time to time and we have given full answers to all the questions raised by the Estimates Committee on this question, and I am sure that they are satisfied with the answers.

### Indian Electricity Rules, 1956

\*1301. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government Works executed departmentally by the C.P.W.D. and carried out by an electrical contractor licensed by the State Government are exempted from being supervised by a person holding a certificate of competency of the State Government under Rule 45(1) of the Indian Electricity Rules, 1956;

(b) if so, whether any notification has been issued in this respect;

(c) whether the Central Government Works executed and carried out by the C.P.W.D. itself are also exempted from being supervised by a person holding a certificate of competency of the State Government;

(d) if so, whether any separate notification has been issued in this respect; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) and (c). Central Government Works executed departmentally by the Central Public Works Department and supervised by their staff holding a Degree or Diploma in Electrical Engineering from recognised Universities and/or Institutions, have been exempted by most of the State Governments from the operation of Rule 45(1) requiring supervision by a person holding a certificate of competency. No such