

श्री आशिष अली : प्रगर नोटिस पेश करेंगे तो इस की जानकारी मालूम कर के पेश कर दी जायगी ।

DEVELOPMENT AND MODERNISATION OF
AERODROMES

*664. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the steps Government propose to take to overcome the delay in the execution of the programme for the development and modernisation of aerodromes during the First Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): It is proposed (i) to augment adequately the existing strength of the Engineering personnel engaged on Civil Aviation works, and (ii) to place indents on manufacturers abroad for run-way lighting and other specialised communication and aerodrome equipment required during 1955-56 well before the close of the current financial year so that the necessary equipment could be received and installed in time.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: It is stated in the *Progress Report on the Five Year Plan* for the last three years, that only 25 per cent. of the amount provided for in the Plan has been utilised for this purpose during the first three years. It is also stated therein that the amount could not be availed of, because we could not get equipments from foreign countries. May I know from which countries these equipments have been ordered, whether the orders have since been cancelled, and from which countries we are going to get these equipments?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It is a fact that we have not been in a position to utilise the allotment for the improvement of aerodromes. The obvious difficulties are that there are rapid developments in the method of lighting and other equipments of aerodromes; and

when it is planned and we decide to place orders through the Department of Supplies, we find that certain modifications in the light of the recent developments in the equipments have become necessary. So, it takes some more time.

As regards the countries on which we place orders, they are several in number—U.K., U.S.A., and other countries. But we are taking precautions this year to see that we utilise more of the allotted funds.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: It was stated a year ago that the lighting arrangement at Palam aerodrome was not according to the I.C.A.O. standards. May I know whether it has since been brought up to the I.C.A.O. standard?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: It has been, in several airfields.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Are our aerodromes that are on the international services going to receive priority in this matter of modernisation? If they are, why are they going to receive priority, as against our internal aerodromes?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Well, they have been given priority, and it is obvious as to why these aerodromes which are international should be equipped. It is not to the neglect of other aerodromes, but these international aerodromes are important by themselves, because they are the most important centres even for the internal services. So, when we equip them, it is not only because they are international airports, but because they are the most important centres even for the internal services.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: May I know whether any complaints have been received from the authorities of the Pan American Airways that the lighting arrangement of the airfields at night is defective?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Personally I am not aware of that.

DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

*665. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether it is proposed to extend