

(SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Vijayawada is one of the 67 stations selected to be developed as Model Stations at an estimated cost of Rs. 164.95 lakh. Under this scheme, works pertaining to provision of drinking water taps, benches/seats on platforms and waiting hall, bath cubicles, lavatories, urinals, cover over platforms, improvements to platforms and circulating area and re-arrangement of booking office area have been completed. Works relating to provision of lighting arrangements and fans; extension of foot over bridge, cycle stand, illuminated boards, new staircase for the foot over bridge from platform No. 1-A improvements to public address system and extension to the existing station building are in progress. Upto March, 1991 approximately Rs. 120.00 lakh have been spent on this scheme.

Extension of Run-way at Vijayawada Airport

195. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of steps proposed to be taken to extend and to strengthen the run-way at Vijayawada Airport to facilitate Boeing Flights operation ;

(b) whether the proposed work is in progress ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the likely date by which the work will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a)

With a view to extend and strengthen the runway at Vajayawada airport to facilitate Boeing flight operations, the National Airport Authority has drawn up a plan for (i) expansion and strengthening of the runway to 7500', (ii) widening and strengthening of the apron and the taxitrack, and (iii) construction of a new terminal building.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Due to financial constraints, it has not been possible to begin work on this project yet.

Enhancement of Prices of Coal

196. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to enhance the prices of coal ; and

(b) if so, the effect of the decision taken if any, on the economy of the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) and (b) The prices of coal produced by Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) based on the indices of June, 1988 and January 1989 were revised last with effect from 1-1-1989 and 24-1-1989 respectively. Since then there has been substantial increase in the cost of production due to increase in the cost of inputs like wages on account of National Coal Wage Agreement IV, Variable Dearness Allowance, Explosive, POL, rate of interest. Therefore, CIL and SCCL have submitted proposals for increasing the