

[English]

Tourism Development in Himalayas

3049. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Himalaya Tourism Advisory Board has suggested for development of tourist spots in the Himalayas including Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The Himalayan Tourism Advisory Board has discussed issues relating to the infrastructure development, communication, transportation and environmental problems as well as strategy for promotion of adventure tourism in Himalayan States. Action on various recommendations/decision of Fourth HIMTAD is to be taken by the concerned State Governments and Central agencies.

Ancient Monument in South Delhi

3050. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological survey of India and residents of Malviya Nagar, South Delhi are locked in a tussle over a controversial land belonging to some monuments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). Some individuals have

claimed ownership of a portion of land attached to a protected monument, namely, the tomb of Sheikh Kabirud-Din also known as Rakabwala Gumbad, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi. They have filed a suit in the court of law and the matter is sub-judice.

[Translation]

Facility of Running Staff to TTIs

3051. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide facility of assisting staff to the Travelling Ticket inspectors in the trains as in cases of Guards and Drivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Assistance is given by various categories of staff, including Railway Protection Force/Government Railway Police personnel, to the Travelling Ticket Examiners in discharge of their duties. Exclusive assisting staff for them is not considered justified.

[English]

Air Linking of Bhiwara, Rajasthan

3052. SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link Bhiwara in Rajasthan by air service;

(b) whether the air Strip, terminal build-

ing and the control tower have been constructed according to the specifications of the airlines; and

(c) if so, when the air service is likely to start from there?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAOSCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The State Government had constructed an aerodrome at Bhilwara in 1980-90 which is suitable for Dornier type of aircraft operations. Some changes/modifications were required in Terminal Building and operational area.

(c) It is not possible to air link Bhilwara at the present juncture due to commercial and operational reasons.

[*Translation*]

Bridges in Bihar

3053. SHRI RAM TAHAL CH-
 OUDHARY:
 SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway bridges in Bihar that are more than 150 years old;

(b) the number of such bridges required to be renovated; and

(c) whether a high level committee has been set up for this purpose and if so, the details of its composition

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) None, Sir.

(b) Does not arise. However, 41 of the old bridges have been identified for rehabilitation on condition basis.

(c) For in-depth study of old bridges, a committee consisting of Commissioner of Railway Safety, Northern Circle; Director Standards (Bridges), Research, Designs & Standards Organisation and Chief Bridge Engineers of Northern and South Eastern Railways had been appointed in 1986, and its report was accepted for implementation.

Expan sion of Phaphaman Station

3054. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether a number of representations have been received for the expansion of Phaphaman Junction and providing stoppage of Ganga Gomati Express there; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Expansion of a Railway Station is considered based on the volume of traffic dealt with and subject to availability of funds. The station building at Phaphamau Junction is in a good condition and is provided with two waiting halls, adequate number of benches, sufficient number of drinking water taps, electric lights and fans, platform shelters and lavatories for ladies and gents. The amenities so available at the station are considered adequate for the present level of traffic. Stoppage of Ganga Gomati Express at Phaphamau is not justified.