

(b) The new terminal will have 13 aerobridges of which 9 have been already installed. The remaining four will be put in position as second arm for In-Contact parking bays meant for wide-bodied aircraft. In the present phase of construction, there is no proposal for construction of a second runway.

(c) On completion, the terminal will be opened for traffic after the various systems and facilities are tested through a trial run over a period of time.

[Translation]

Railway Regional Office in Bihar

1622. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a long standing demand for opening a railway Regional Office in Bihar ;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision in this regard ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The demand for formation of a new zone in Bihar was remitted to the Railway Reforms Committee for their consideration. The Committee after carefully considering all the aspects have not made any recommendation in this regard.

[English]

Railway bridge over river Ganga in Patna

1623. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :

SHRI C.P. THAKUR :

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal for the construction of a railway bridge over river Ganga in Patna has been under consideration since 1974 ;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in its construction ;

(c) whether Government have dropped the said proposal for its construction ; and

(d) if not, when Government propose to take a decision in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (d). An engineering-cum-traffic survey in connection with the proposed rail bridge across river Ganga near patna is in progress. The progress achieved is about 80%. While the Engineering field work is over, the traffic survey is being carried out. The survey is expected to be completed in the next year. Final decision on this project will be taken in consultation with Bihar Government, after receipt and examination of the Survey Report, subject to its clearance by the planning Commission, and availability of funds.

Purchase of Helicopters by Helicopter Corporation of India

1624. SHRI BHOLANATH SEN : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Air Force have evaluated different types of helicopters to be purchased by the Helicopter Corporation of India to meet the needs of oil industry, tourism and private sector ;

(b) if so, the different types of helicopters evaluated by the Indian Air Force ;

(c) the results/findings of the evaluation by Air Force ;

(d) the details of recommendations made by Indian Air Force ; and

(e) the decision of Government in the matter of selection of suitable type (s) of helicopters for operation by the Helicopter Corporation ?