

7. Progressive vestibuling of important Mail and Express trains.
8. To Improve cleanliness of bathrooms, high pressure water jets at terminals and enroute.
9. Provision of Mobile train cleaning staff on selected trains.

**Reinstatement of Railway Employees
Dismissed in 1980-81**

226. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of employees of Loco running staff were dismissed during 1980 and 1981;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to reinstate such employees in railway service; and

(d) if so, by what time?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). About 611 loco running staff were dismissed/removed from service under Rule 14(ii) of the Railway Servants (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, which corresponds to clause (b) of the second proviso to Article 311(2) of the Constitution. Such action was taken in connection with the mass agitation launched by the Loco Running Staff Association in the early part of 1981, in which about 13,000 running staff took part. While taking action under Rule 14(ii) it is not necessary to follow normal disciplinary procedure. The action taken against these loco staff has been upheld by a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in July 1985.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal to reinstate these employees excepting as a result of appeals/revision petitions made by individual employees or as per Courts' final

orders.

[English]

Air Taxi Service

227. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to authorise some private parties to operate air taxi service;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the non-resident Indians among them;

(c) whether Government have received any representation to remove obstacles in conducting this service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these would be removed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A revised scheme for Air Taxi operation was approved and become operational in October, 1989.

(b) So far eight parties have been given a clearance in principle. They are:

- (1) M/s Delhi Gulf Airways Services Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
- (2) M/s Asia Funds Ltd., New Delhi.
- (3) M/s Dalmia Resorts International Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
- (4) M/s Capt. Priyadarshan Pandey, Denmark.
- (5) M/s Air Asiatic Ltd., Madras.
- (6) M/s Maneckji Aviation Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.
- (7) M/s India International Airways Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

- (8) M/s Tata Iron & Steel Company Ltd., New Delhi.

- (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Out of these, India International Airways Private Ltd. has completed all formalities and obtained the Air Taxi Operators' permit. Capt. Priyadarshan Pandey of Denmark and Mr. Praful Patel of M/s. Asia Funds Ltd., New Delhi have been promoted by NRIs, However, except M/s. Delhi Gulf Airways Services Pvt. Ltd., Bombay, and M/s. Maneckji Aviation Private Ltd., Bombay, all other parties propose to import aircraft under NRIs investment.

(c) and (d). Some representations have been received requesting for duty concessions, liberal repatriation formula, concessions in landing and navigational charges and adding more airports to the list of airports for operation of air taxi etc. Prospective air taxi operators have been requested to discuss among themselves and come up with more cogent proposals for removing obstacles.

[Translation]

Gas Based Power Projects

228. SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programme has been chalked out to set up gas-based power projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the difficulties being faced in setting up these power projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A capacity of 7484.7 MW of Gas based power projects is proposed to be added during the Eighth Plan period.

Setting up of Agro-Based in Orissa

229. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope of setting up agro-based industries in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken to explore the possibility of setting up such agro-based units in Orissa; and

(c) the details of the programme of Government in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (c). The Government of Orissa have accorded top priority in their latest industrial policy for the development of agro-based and food processing industries in the state. The various steps taken in this regard are as under:

(i) The realistic assessment of the available agro resources has already been done;

(ii) Setting up of Food Processing Industrial Complex at Muniguda of Koraputuv District;

(iii) The Central Food Technical Research Institute, Mysore has already prepared a techno-feasibility report and a Master Plan for the proposed industrial complex at Muniguda on the request of the State Govt;

(iv) Identification of the entrepreneurs who may be interested in setting up agro-based units in the State is under process;

(v) Reputed manufacturers and Marketing Houses dealing in agro-based industries are also being