

scheme with flood control as one of the objectives. It is capable of providing flood control when operated according to the guidelines prescribed by the Expert Committee.

(b) Two projects, namely, Manibhadra dam project and Kuakhai control structure are under consideration of Government of Orissa to protect Cuttack and Puri districts.

(c) The Report in respect of Manibhadra Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 1103.12 crores for multipurpose benefits has been received in the Central Water Commission on 29-10-85 and is presently under examination for its techno-economic viability.

(d) No such project report has been received in the Central Water Commission. However, it is understood that the proposal to divert river Bhargavi by providing a cut on the left of the river to discharge the flood waters direct to the sea with flood embankments on either side is under study of the State Government.

Survey of line between Nadikudi-Renigunta

3622. SHRI KATURI NARAYANA SWAMY : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey for a new railway line between Nadikudi and Renigunta has been taken up ;

(b) if so, when the survey is likely to be completed ;

(c) whether a provision for this railway line has been made in the Seventh Five Year Plan ; and

(d) when is the work on the project of laying the railway line likely to be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (d). A Preliminary Engineering cum Traffic survey from Nadikude to Gudur/Sri Kalahasti via Narasoraopet, Kurichedu etc., (350 Kms) is in progress. Further action will be taken on receipt and examination of the survey

report, depending on its financial remunerativeness and availability of resources.

Development of Cochin Airport

3623. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government have requested the Union Government to examine the development of Cochin Airport by deputing an inter-disciplinary team from the concerned Departments of Civil Aviation, Defence, Ports, Railways and Finance ;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The request has been examined and it has been found that the existing runway at Cochin Airport cannot be extended for the following reasons :

(i) Inadequacy of land due to the location of a road, railway line and the sea at one end and the dockyard at the other ;

(ii) Reclamation of land and re-alignment of the road and railway line will be an expensive and time-consuming exercise ; and

(iii) The runway suffers from the constraint of uni-directional operations because of obstructions such as high cranes in the dockyard.

[*Translation*]

Express trains introduced on Lucknow-Faizabad-Varanasi Line

3624. SARI NIRMAL KHATTRI : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the new express trains introduced