

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The estimated total profit of Air India for the year 1985-86 is Rs. 65 crores. This figure of profit is provisional and likely to change.

(b) Normally profitability is calculated on the entire India-Gulf sector and not on Trivandrum-Gulf route only; however, on the Trivandrum-Gulf route, Air India have earned a provisional operating profit of Rs. 27.29 crores, for the period April-December, 1985.

Road over-bridge between Kandivalee and Borivalee (Bombay)

4366. **SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether plans and estimates have been finalised for a road over-bridge between Kandivalee and Borivalee (Bombay) on level crossing No. 32;

(b) if so, when the actual work will start; and

(c) whether any allocation have been made for the project during 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The Railway is to undertake construction of main bridge and approaches are to be constructed by Bombay Municipal Corporation. General arrangement plans have been finalised. Bombay Municipal Corporation is finalising the plans for road approaches. Estimate for Railways portion of the work is under preparation.

(b) The work will be taken up after Bombay Municipal Corporation finalises the plans, accepts the estimate and assures provision of funds for their share of cost.

(c) Rupees 1 lakh.

Non-availability of wagons at Nagpur/Itwari Stations for Transportation of Timber

4367. **SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nagpur Timber Merchants Association, Nagpur has stated that due to non-availability of railway wagons since 11 February 1986 huge quantity of goods has accumulated in the saw mills of the city; and

(b) if so, steps Government propose to provide wagons at the Nagpur and Itwari stations to clear the mounting goods with the traders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): A representation has been received from Nagpur Timber Merchants' Association requesting for allotment of wagons for movement of timber.

(b) The Railways have loaded 45 wagons at Itwari station for movement of timber during February and March '86 (upto 23rd) as against 20 wagons loaded during February and March 1985. As on 24.3.86, only 15 demands were pending.

At Nagpur, no traffic has been offered.

[*Translation*]

Expansion of Air Strips at Lucknow and Varanasi Airports

4368. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for expansion of air strips at Lucknow and Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh during Seventh plan period; and

(b) if so, the time by which the work on this scheme is proposed to be started and the funds earmarked for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). In the draft 7th Five Year Plan, extension of Lucknow and Varanasi airstrips was included, but because of the pruning down of the Outlay by the Planning Commission from Rs. 2764.07 crores (proposed) to Rs. 730.21 crores, a review of the Plan proposals has become necessary. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate when these works will be taken up.