

(d) The following steps have been taken to increase the air journey facilities in the country to meet the growing demand :

- (i) Indian Airlines has signed an agreement with M/s. Airbus Industries, France, for the acquisition of 19 Airbus A320 aircraft during 1989-90 (delivery to commence in April, 1989) with an option to purchase 12 additional aircraft during 1990-91. In order to meet the interim capacity requirements, Indian Airlines proposes to take on lease Airbus and Boeing 737 aircraft.
- (ii) Vayudoot also has plans to acquire some 40-50 seater aircraft during the current plan period to replace the aging Turbo-Prop. aircraft transferred to its fleet from Indian Airlines as also to cater to the projected growth in traffic.

Homoeopathic Cure for AIDS, Encephalitis and Meningitis

5441. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH
AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to
state :

(a) whether there is a need to develop Homoeopathic cure for viral diseases like AIDS, Encephalitis and Meningitis; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ
KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). The Central
Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New
Delhi has initiated research study to find
out the efficacy of homoeopathic treatment
for encephalitis and meningitis. No such
study has so far been taken up by the
Council in regard to AIDS.

Acquisition of Planes and Aviation Equipment from USSR

5442. DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK ;

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are
considering the possibility of acquisition of
Soviet Aviation Equipment including planes
for civilian use;

(b) if so, whether Soviet Union had
offered to supply a full range of planes;
and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI
JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c). Dis-
cussions were held between the Government
of India and the Government of the USSR
during which the USSR had offered to
supply a full range of planes. Technical
Data containing requisite details and
specifications of aircraft and aviation equip-
ment are awaited from the USSR.

Railway Lines in Karnataka

5443. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will
the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to
state :

(a) the per capital length of railway
lines in India and that of Karnataka as on
1 January, 1987; and

(b) the year-wise projections of new
railway lines proposed to be laid in
Karnataka during the Seventh Five Year
Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Route
length in Kms. per lakh of population on
31-3-1986 are 9.02 and 8.14 for all India
and Karnataka respectively.

(b) The new line project of Chitradurg-
Rayadurg will be in progress in Seventh Five
Year Plan.

Pay-Scales of Commercial Clerks in Railways

5444. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA
MALIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS
be pleased to state :