

(b) the work is expected to be completed by October, 1989.

(c) and (d). The secondary runway will be available for aircraft operation when the main runway is closed, except when the work is undertaken at the intersection of the two runways. Although the secondary runway is not equipped with ILS, Instrument approaches/let downs are available at this runways. In case of emergency or poor visibility, the main runway will be kept operational by deferring the work. the safety of aircraft landing will not be , therefore, compromised.

Achievement in the field of Electronics

5546. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether one of the aims of the Seventh Plan document was to reduce the prices of the electronic goods and to keep abreast of the technological development taking place in the world;

(b) the extent to which the target in the above spheres has been achieved so far together with the reasons for not achieving the desired results; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to achieve them in the remaining part of the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (c). One of the aims of Seventh Five Year Plan was to reduce the cost of production of electronic items but no specific targets for the same were set. In the fast changing area of electronics technology several external factors like international trade and monetary movements, expanding scales of production of the leading international companies etc. have differing impacts on prices of local

electronic items. However, several fiscal and policy measures have been taken which had favourable effects on prices of some sectors of electronics production within the constraints of the factors outlined above.

Declaration of Trivandrum Airport as International Airport

5547. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a constant demand for declaring Trivandrum Airport as an International Airport;

(b) if so, whether this proposal was considered by Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that the International Airports Authority have favoured the upgradation; and

(d) if so, Government's decision thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (d). A traffic survey conducted by IAAI in 1985 had revealed that Trivandrum Airport has a weekly International passenger traffic of 7900. Limited international operations by Indian Airlines and Air India have already been permitted from Trivandrum Airport to take care of the traffic requirements. Since the existing four international airports are considered adequate to handle the present level of international traffic to and from India, there is no proposal to declare Trivandrum Airport as an International Airport.

Beach Resorts In Kerala

5548. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the beach resorts being set up in Kerala with the assistance from the Union Government for promotion of tourism under the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the funds allocated for each and the progress made in each project; and

(c) time by which these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (c). The Central Department of Tourism has sanctioned projects for setting up Beach Resorts at Varkala and Kappad in Kerala at an estimated cost of Rs. 95.00 lakhs and Rs. 67.24 lakhs respectively. Preliminary formalities for commencing the works are in progress and these projects are likely to be completed within a period of three years.

Utilisation of Airbus

5549. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. JHOSALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programme has been drawn up for utilisation of Airbus A 320 aircraft; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No, Sir. Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

French Help In Fast-breeder Plan

5550. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether French Government propose to help Indian fast-breeder plan of nuclear power plants as reported in Times of India dated 6 February, 1989;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the similar technology was also sought from USSR sometime back;

(d) if so, whether the earlier claims for development of this technology indigenously have been proved futile; and

(e) if so, the latest stage at which India stands at present in the field of this technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) and (b). India and France had signed agreements in 1969 and 1972 for cooperation in the construction of the Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR). The design of the French reactor "RHAPSODY" was utilised by Indian engineers and scientists in the construction of the FBTR. While some components and materials for the FBTR were obtained from France, most of the equipment and components have been produced in India. Notably, mixed uranium-plutonium carbide, developed entirely by Indian engineers and scientists, has been used in FBTR.

(c) As a part of general cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of Atomic Energy, India and Soviet Union also expect to exchange experience in the field of Fast Breeder Reactor Technology.

(d) and (e). India places great importance to developing Fast Breeder Reactors. On a self-reliant basis following the FBTR, a 500 MWe prototype Fast Breeder Reactor is being designed entirely by Indian engineers and scientists. India is one of five or six countries in the world pursuing fast reactor