

Electrification of Railway Lines in Kerala

1943. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not undertaking electrification of railway lines in Kerala;

(b) whether State Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for the electrification of railway lines in that State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Electrification of Railways is a capital intensive work. Investment is incurred by priority on sections which have the highest traffic density. During the 7th Plan, priorities are to first complete electrification of Delhi-Bombay (both Central and Western Railway routes), Delhi-Madras Grand Trunk route, Howrah-Bombay via Nagpur Trunk route.

In view of the above and constraint of resources, it has not been feasible to include electrification of railway lines in Kerala in the Electrification Programme for the 7th Plan.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The State Government of Kerala has requested for electrification of Palghat-Trivandrum section.

Delays of Flight No. IC 415

1944. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some flights of Indian Airlines are usually delayed;

(b) if so, the details of flight IC-415 Delhi-Patna-Kanpur which was delayed during the last 3 months;

(c) the causes of such delays resulting in inconvenience to the passengers; and

(d) the remedial measures being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). During the last 3 months, (viz., April to June '86) whereas flight IC-415 was delayed on 4 occasions due to reasons within the control of Indian Airlines, on 41 occasions it was delayed due to reasons such as inclement weather, inadequate airport facilities and other consequential delays which are beyond the control of Indian Airlines.

(d) It is the constant endeavour of Indian Airlines to increase punctuality in its services. As IC-415, is the sixth flight to be operated by the same aircraft, it is more prone to consequential delays. However, planned augmentation of Indian Airlines' fleet will enable introduction of a cushion in the schedule to reduce consequential delays.

[Translation]

New Course on Environment in Universities

1945. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a new course on environment in universities; and

(b) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). Environment studies has already been introduced as a subject at the first degree level in a few universities.