

**Reaction of Government to News-
item Captioned 'Rural Banks yet
to make a Headway'**

1964. **SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:**

SHRI A. C. GEORGE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item under the caption "Rural Banks yet to make a headway" published in the *Hindustan Times* dated 11th September, 1978; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Government have seen the news item referred to in the question.

(b) Majority of a total of 48 Regional Rural Banks, including those in the Northern and Central Regions, have been in operation for about 2 years. An assessment of the overall performance of the Regional Rural Banks was made by the Banatwala Committee on Regional Rural Banks. The Committee has observed that within a short span of time, these banks have demonstrated their capability to serve the purpose for which they were established. After taking into consideration the potentiality of these banks to serve the rural community, the Government have decided to accelerate the programme for the establishment of Regional Rural Banks.

**Improvement in Santacruz Airport at
Bombay**

1965. **PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Santacruz airport at Bombay is overcrowded in every respect;

(b) if so, steps taken by Government to remedy and improve the said situation;

(c) when will the said situation be eased and how; and

(d) what are the concrete results achieved so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To meet the increasing traffic demand, additions and alterations have been made from time to time to the existing building at Santa Cruz airport. These resulted in an increase of 5,710 sq. metrs. at Santa Cruz airport over the area of 17,896 sq. metrs. in 1972. During the current year the transit lounge at Santa Cruz airport was extended. Since the existing terminal building at Santa Cruz has reached the saturation point, it is proposed to construct a separate International complex at Bombay on the basis that when completed the present building would be used exclusively for domestic traffic. The first phase of International complex at Bombay at an estimated cost of Rs. 11 crores is under construction.

(c) and (d). In order to ease the increased passenger traffic, the I.A.A.I. took up the construction of a new passenger and cargo complex in 1976 which is expected to be commissioned in 1980 and will have a passenger handling capacity of 2100 passengers per peak hour.

In order to handle the high growth of passenger traffic, especially from and to Gulf countries, the I.A.A.I. propose to construct a second module of terminal complex which will have a passenger handling capacity of 4500 passengers per peak hour. The feasibility report for the construction of this module submitted by I.A.A.I. is under active consideration of Government.