

APPRENTICES IN THE INDIAN AIRLINES CORPORATION

757. Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Air Lines Corporation have stopped the practice of paying monthly allowances to its engineering apprentices and student apprentices which was paid in some of the Scheduled lines before nationalisation; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions on which students, student apprentices and apprentices are employed in the engineering sections of the different air-ports?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No new apprentices are being entertained by the Corporation on payment basis. Those apprentices who had been drawing stipends at the time of nationalisation were allowed to complete their training on that basis.

(b) The Corporation is now accepting for training only student-apprentices sent to them for training by recognised educational institutions. The terms and conditions on which such student-apprentices are taken are given in the statement which I lay on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 67.]

PASSENGER AMENITIES

758. Shri Raghuramalah: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to effect any important alterations in the third class compartments so as to provide greater amenities for third class passengers; and

(b) if so, the nature of those alterations and by what time they will be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). It is not intended to change the design of the recently standardised

Class III Broad Gauge Coach. A new design of Class III Metro Gauge is being considered. Provision of sleeping accommodation for Class III passengers on a limited scale on Janata Expresses and long distance trains, is under consideration.

VIJAYAWADA AIR PORT

759. Shri Raghuramalah: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum has been received from the various public organizations in Andhra State requesting that

(i) the Madras-Delhi and Madras-Calcutta flight planes should halt also at Vijayawada; and

(ii) the Air Service to Visakhapatnam should be a daily one; and

(b) if so the decision taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Then Indian Airlines Corporation has a proposal to operate an air service between Madras and Vijayawada when the aircraft at present on order for the operation of feeder routes are delivered. The alternatives of including Vijayawada as a halt either on the Calcutta-Madras or the Delhi-Madras service or on both these services are being examined.

It has been decided that the Calcutta-Madras service should be operated through Visakhapatnam daily from the beginning of October, 1954.

UNIFORMS FOR P. & T. EMPLOYEES

760. Shri K. C. Sodhia: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money spent by the Post and Telegraph Department on liveries and uniforms