

### Gliding Centre at Bangalore

\*59. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposed gliding centre at Bangalore has been opened; and
- (b) if so, the cost incurred for the opening of the centre?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The Centre is expected to be opened shortly.

(b) No expenditure has been incurred so far, but equipment worth about Rs. 1 lakh has been ordered for the Centre.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know what steps the Government have taken to encourage gliding?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** We have recently decided to open two new gliding centres, one at Allahabad and another at Bangalore. The question relates to Bangalore. Apart from that we have got a Gliding Adviser attached to the Civil Aviation Department. There are two gliding clubs, one at Delhi and the other at Poona is already functioning. We are trying to help them as best as we can with money and equipment.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know the total number of gliding centres at present.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I have already answered that.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Is it not true that the progress of gliding in India has been totally inadequate considering that we have formed only two clubs, and that the Defence Ministry had to step in by having gliding centres through the N. C. C.?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** There has not been much response from the public. Therefore gliding clubs have not been formed. Approaches have not been made to the Government but in spite of that we, on our own initiative, are trying to form gliding clubs. With that end in view, we have decided to add two more to the existing two gliding clubs, and if the response from the public is encouraging, no effort will be spared on behalf of the Civil Aviation Directorate to encourage with money and equipment the gliding clubs.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** May I know whether the Ministry is aware of the importance of gliding which is the bed-rock of aviation, both military and civil, and whether the Ministry propose...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member can put questions for information.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** May I know whether the Ministry proposes to take every benefit of the demonstration to be shown tomorrow by the Polish people where young boys and girls are known to fly beautiful machines at such a tender age.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Certainly the officers of the Civil Aviation Directorate are taking part in that show.

**Shri Chattopadhyaya:** May I know, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** We will go to the next question.

### Damage caused to Railway Property by Floods

\*60. **Shri M. L. Agrawal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha showing:

(a) the extent of breaches and damages caused to the Railway track, buildings and material in the country by the unprecedented floods in October, 1955; and

(b) whether there are any places where breaches have not yet been repaired and normal transport activities not resumed.

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

(b) Yes, Sir; there are only two sections on the Northern Railway—Amritsar-Dera Baba Nanak and Ferozepore Cantt.-Jullundur City—where normal traffic has not yet been restored.

**Shri M. L. Agrawal:** When could we expect normal traffic to be resumed in these places?

**Shri Alagesan:** On one of the sections it is expected to be restored by the end of this month, and on the other section by the end of the next month.

**Shri M. L. Agrawal:** May I know when we could expect to have the statement with regard to part (a) of the question?

**Shri Alagesan:** We have said in due course. It will be done as soon as the information is obtained.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** What are the insuperable difficulties experienced at Ferozepore and Jullundur which have not

enabled the Railway Ministry to resume normal traffic there ?

**Shri Alagesan :** The hon. Member knows that there have been unprecedented floods in that region, and the damages have been very extensive. Many other sections were restored to traffic, but these two sections could not be.

#### Ramagundam-Nizamabad Line

\*61. **Shri Heda :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey of the Ramagundam-Nizamabad line in Hyderabad State has been completed ; and

(b) when the work will start and when it is expected to be completed ?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) :** (a) No Sir.

(b) It is yet too early to say if and when the construction will start.

**Shri Heda :** Is it a fact that when the old Nizam State Railway was merged into the All-India Railway, one of the conditions was that whatever liquid cash was available with the Nizam State Railway would be spent on the construction of new railway lines in that zone ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) :** I would like to have notice for that.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao.** Could I know when the traffic survey for this railway link was undertaken and when it is likely to be completed ?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan :** One survey was carried in 1946 for a railway line from Ramagundam to Latur, but that project had to be dropped owing to the disturbances that took place in Hyderabad. A fresh survey has been ordered and we are hoping that by the middle of next month the final survey and traffic report would be available.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao :** In view of that fact that this railway link is a part of the direct link between Visakhapatnam on the East Coast and Bombay on the West Coast, do Government purpose to give any priority for this line ?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan :** As soon as the survey report is received, it will receive the very careful consideration of the Government.

**श्रीमती कमलेंद्रु जति साह :** क्या मैं जान सकती हूँ कि ऋषिकेश से रुद्र प्रयाग रेलवे का कब सर्वे होगा ?

**श्री साहनबाब खाँ :** अगर माननीय सदस्या कृपा करके दूसरी नोटिस दें तो मज्जा होगा ।

#### Indo-U.S. Air Agreement

\*62. **Shri N. M. Lingam :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 2187 on the 27th September, 1955 and state at what stage is the agreement between the Government of India and the U.S.A. for the operation of U.S. Commercial planes in India ?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) :** Talks with a U.S. Delegation for the conclusion of a fresh bilateral air transport agreement between the Governments of India and the United States of America commenced on the 19th October, 1955 in New Delhi. The talks are still in progress and views are still being exchanged. The talks have not yet reached a stage when it will be in the public interest to furnish any material information on the subject.

**Shri N. M. Lingam :** May I know the special difficulties that have made the negotiations unduly protracted ?

**Shri Raj Bahadur :** As the hon. Member and the House know there has been a difference of opinion in regard to the utilization of the fifth freedom traffic and the capacity and the frequencies of the services to be operated by the American lines, keeping in view the third and fourth freedom traffic.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury :** May I know whether it is a fact that one of the reasons for the delay in arriving at an agreement is that in the terms offered by the U.S.A. the Indian airlines will suffer very many disadvantages ?

**Shri Raj Bahadur :** It was for various reasons which have been explained on the floor of the House earlier on several occasions. The 1946 Air agreement with the U.S.A. was terminated on 15th January, 1955. That agreement was, of course, not just and beneficial to the legitimate rights and interest of the Air India International.

**Shri Joachim Alva rose—**

**Mr. Speaker :** This question has often been discussed.