

Aerodrome Officers

2952. { Shri Kodiyan:
Shri Warior:
Shri Parulekar:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of vacancies for the posts of Aerodrome Officers are lying vacant since long;

(b) if so, the number thereof; and

(c) the reasons for delay in filling these vacancies?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) and (b). Three posts had remained unfilled for a little over one year and one post for less than a year.

(c) The posts could not be filled up because the list of officers selected for promotion had not been finalized. This has recently been done and three of these posts are being filled up.

Colourisation of Vanaspati

2953. **Shri Shiva Datt Upadhyaya:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research is being carried on at the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, for discovering a suitable colouring material for colourisation of Vanaspati;

(b) the amount spent on such research so far; and

(c) the net results achieved?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No research is being carried on at present. Some work on the use of chlorophyll as a colouring material for Vanaspati had been done earlier.

(b) A sum of Rs. 53.42 was spent on raw materials.

(c) The work done showed that although chlorophyll could be used as a colouring material for Vanaspati, it was easily removable like other vegetable colours.

Passenger Amenities

2954. **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway administration received complaints regarding lack of proper maintenance of bathrooms and lavatories in the first class compartments and lack of proper maintenance of electrical fittings in the second class compartments on the Secunderabad, Jangaon, Kazipet, Warangalad and Kornakal stations of the Central Railway; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes. 2 complaints were recorded in the complaints Book at Secunderabad and 2 at Kazipet.

(b) Defects were rectified and staff concerned were suitably taken up.

Aerodrome at Tirupathi

2955. **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct an airstrip at Tirupathi in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Tirupathi is about 90 miles from the Madras Airport and is well-connected by rail and road. Construction of an airport at Tirupathi will not, therefore, be justified from the all India Civil Aviation point of view.