

Proposal to construct new Airports in the Country

1810. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since finalised proposal to the construct new Airports in the country ;

(b) if so, their location ; and

(c) the time when the work will be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) to (c). Proposals for construction of aerodromes at Tirupathi (Andhra Pradesh), Barapani (Assam) and Calicut (Kerala) have already been finalised. The aerodrome at Tirupathi is under construction and is expected to be ready in 1972. Construction work at Barapani is expected to commence shortly and it is hoped that the aerodrome will be ready before the end of the Plan period. The aerodrome at Calicut will be taken up during the current Plan to be completed in the next Plan period. A scheme for the construction of an aerodrome at Hubli (Mysore) is being prepared.

Losses Suffered by Indian Airlines

1811. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines have been showing losses during the last three years ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether Government propose to overhaul the whole administrative set up to minimise the losses ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION; (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir, Indian Airlines made a profit of Rs. 165.74 lakhs in 1968-69 and of Rs. 228.43 lakhs in 1969-70. During the year 1970-71

that Corporation incurred a loss of Rs. 467.60 lakhs.

(b) The main reasons for the loss in 1970-71 were :-

(i) frequent disruption of services due to labour troubles ;

(ii) substantial increase in wages ;

(iii) Loss of three F-27 aircraft ;

(iv) increase in excise duty on aviation fuel;

(v) re-routing and suspension of certain services to avoid overflying Pakistan ; and

(vi) increase in insurance rates so as to cover hijacking risks.

(c) The Sen Committee has made certain recommendations which are under examination.

Proposal to encourage Indigenous Manufacture of Soap

1812. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : SHRI K. MALLANNA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of tallow is inadequate and consequently the production soap is suffering ; and

(b) whether Government propose to encourage the manufacture of soap without the imported tallow in view of the tradition of fine quality of soap manufacturing in ancient India ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) The quantity of tallow being imported is considered adequate for the manufacture of soap considering the availability of hard oils like Mohwa oil, hydrogenated vegetable oil etc.

(b) With a view to reducing the import of tallow and exploiting the potential oil resources in the country, stress is being laid on the use of minor and non-traditional oils. Incentives in form of excise rebate on soap