

System, Thai Airways, British Overseas Airways Corporation and Bangladesh Bimau are operating 63 flights to/from Calcutta every week, apart from the large number of services operated to/from Calcutta by Indian Airlines and Air India. During the last 12 months two foreign airlines viz. Qantas Empire Airways and Pan American Airway, suspended scheduled services to Calcutta of their own accord.

(c) Japan Airlines operate a once-weekly scheduled service through Calcutta. However, they have indicated their intention to operate to Bombay in lieu of Calcutta effective 1st July 1972, again based on their own commercial judgement.

(d) A new international terminal building has been constructed at Calcutta and the Government are anxious that the importance of the airport should not be diminished in any way.

#### **Petroleum Graduates thrown on the Road**

5080. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been invited to the report appearing in the 'Blitz' dated the 15th April, 1972 under the caption 'Petroleum Graduates Thrown on the Road'; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE)  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps have already been taken by the ONGC to absorb all the available Petroleum Technology Graduates who passed out of I. S. M., Dhanbad in 1971, either against suitable posts in the Commission, or for training in the Commission as apprentices with a view to their possible future absorption in the Commission.

#### **Surplus Pilots and Engineers**

5081. SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Pilots and Engineers, including Ground Engineers, separately who are surplus with the Indian Air Force and are unable to get regular flights due to shortage of aircrafts; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to fully utilise the idle capacity of the Pilots and Engineers ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) There are no surplus Pilots or Engineers with the Indian Air Force.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Air Services between India and Soviet Union**

5082. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Soviet Union are negotiating to develop air services between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) Inter-governmental air talks between the delegations of the Government of India and the Ministry of Civil Aviation of the U.S.S.R. were held in New Delhi from 20th to 26th April 1972.

(a) The two delegations reviewed the aspects of further co-operation between the national carriers of the two countries—Air India and Aeroflot. It was re-affirmed that the operations of the two airlines shall be subject to the principle of equal distribution of traffic and revenues on the USSR-India route.