

- (xv) Training facilities for drivers, guards and staff connected with train operation have been modernised including use of Simulators for training of drivers.
- (xvi) Refresher courses are regularly organised at specified intervals.
- (xvii) Performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for crash training.
- (xviii) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff.

[English]

Butterfly Catching Expeditions

3406. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of foreign travel agents and tour operators attract tourists to India with the promise of butterfly catching expeditions;
- (b) if so, whether such an expedition is prohibited under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972; and
- (c) if so, the measures taken to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) No such incident has come to the notice of the Ministry of Tourism.

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Upgradation of Jaipur as International Airport

3407. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for not converting the Jaipur Airport into an International Airport;
- (b) the amount spent by the Union Government for the development of the Jaipur Airport during the last three years;

(c) whether the boundary walls have been erected around the piece of land acquired from the State Government for the construction of the International airport and whether the work on the construction of runway has been completed;

(d) if so, whether the heavy fog during winter in Delhi has necessitated the conversion of the Jaipur Airport into an International Airport; and

(e) if so, the time by which it will be converted?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Jaipur is a model airport with customs and immigration facilities for limited international operations by national carriers and foreign tourist charter flights.

(b) The amount spent on upgradation of Jaipur Airport to international standards during the last three years is Rs. 1.31 crores in 1995-96 and Rs. 1.60 crores in 1997-98.

(c) Under Phase-I, the works of boundary wall around 100 acres of land and the extension of runway from 6000 feet to 7500 feet, have been completed on 17th February, 1999. Under Phase-II, tenders have been invited for construction of boundary wall around the remaining 300 acres of land and the probable date of completion is May 2000 under this phase the runway will also be extended to 9000 feet.

(d) and (e) Jaipur airport is designated as an alternate airport to handle diverted flights of AB-320/AB-310 class. There is no proposal at present to convert Jaipur airport into an international airport.

[English]

Killing of own Colleagues by Army Soldiers

3408. SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of incidents of soldiers killing their own colleagues or superiors took place in Indian Army, particularly in J&K during 1998-99, so far;
- (b) the main reasons for these incidents; and
- (c) the steps taken to improve the relationship amongst the Indian Army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) During 1998-99, there have been five such incidents. Four of these incidents have taken place in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. The main reason for these incidents is the combat stress due to the peculiarities of counter insurgency environment which are different from operational tasks in the battlefield. To keep the combat stress at the barest minimum level, continuous efforts are made like planning proper relief programme constant education and close interaction between commanders and the troops.

[*Translation*]

Doubling and Electrification of Surat-Bhusawal Rail Line

3409. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether doubling and electrification work on Surat-Bhusawal rail line has been going on for long;

(b) if so, the date on which the above works started and the extent of works completed so far along with the amount spent thereon so far;

(c) the time by which the above works are likely to be completed and the estimated amount to be incurred thereon;

(d) whether the time prescribed for the above works has already elapsed; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not completing the work in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) The electrification work on Surat (Udhna)-Bhusawal (Jalgaon) was included in Railway Budget 1997-98. After sanction of estimate etc. process of awarding major contracts was taken in hand. OHE contracts have since been awarded. Rs. 12.14 crores have been spent so far on this project.

A survey for doubling of Udhna-Jalgaon has been taken up. Further consideration of the doubling project

will be possible once the survey report becomes available. A double and Electrified BG line already exists for Surat-Udhna and Bhusawal-Jalgaon sections.

(c) The Railway Electrification project is targetted for completion in the 10th Plan. The work has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 138.12 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Abandoned Chennai-Singapore Flights

3410. SHRI RAJ BANSHI MAHTO :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines crew abandoned the Chennai-Singapore flight sometime in the last week of September, 1998;

(b) if so, the outcome of the inquiry, if any, made by the Government in the matter; and

(c) the action that has been taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The aircraft operating scheduled flight IC-555 on 26.9.1998 was to depart at 0025 hours. Since a single step ladder was available, the passengers took some time to board the aircraft. Consequently, the cabin crew and commander of the flight came under flight and Duty Time Limitation. As such, the flight was operated by another set of crew after a delay of two hours and 55 minutes.

Fruit Processing Industries with Foreign Collaboration

3411. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set-up fruit processing industries with foreign collaboration in Uttar Pradesh;