

(b) the number of posts filled up out of them during the last three years, zone-wise; and

(c) the time by which the remaining backlog of vacancies reserved for SCs/STs/OBCs are likely to be cleared ?

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) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Facilities at Bangalore Airport**

342. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Bangalore airport complex was built on a landing site for Hindustan Aeronautics capable of handling around 700 passengers a day;

(b) if so, the number of passengers handled presently at Bangalore airport; and

(c) the plans that are on the anvil/pipeline to augment the facilities at Bangalore airport in view of the increased passenger load; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During 1997-98, the present terminal building at Bangalore has handled 19 lakhs passengers.

(c) and (d) Airports Authority of India has taken up the work of construction of a two-storeyed Integrated Terminal Building for handling 300 arriving and 300 departing international passengers and 700 arriving domestic passengers. The existing apron is being extended by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. to cater to one B-747, two AB-300 and six AB-320 aircraft at a time. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. is also constructing a parallel taxiway to connect both ends of the main runway. These works are likely to be completed by December, 1998. Airports Authority of India has a proposal for the installation of two aerobridges in front of the International Block. The work is likely to be completed by June, 1999.

#### **Darbhanga-Muzaffarpur Railway Line**

343. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways has examined the suggestion of alternative route to Darbhanga-Muzaffarpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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) Yes, Sir.

(b) Survey carried out in 1997-98 revealed that the length of the line will be 65.54 kms., cost Rs. 118.30 crs, and rate of return will be negative.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Construction of Helipad in Sikkim**

344. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a helipad for the development of tourism in Sikkim;

(b) if so, by which date it is likely to be constructed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) A helipad already exists near Gangtok.

#### **Frequency of Mahamaya Super Fast Train**

345. SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received by the Government to run Mahamaya super fast train daily between Nizamuddin and Bilaspur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

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) and (b) Some representations including from Smt. Chabla Netam have been received in this regard.

(c) The matter has been examined but not found feasible for implementation due to operational constraints.

[English]

#### **Talcher-Sambalpur Railway Line**

346. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN :

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :