

submitted any proposal for construction of two road over bridges on level crossing at Shimoga-Holehonnur Road and Shimoga-Honnali Road;

(b) if so, since when the proposal is pending clearance;

(c) the amount sought by the State Government for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which the proposal is 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) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

131 *Akashwani*
Staff Training Institutes of AIR

3615. SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of Regional Staff Training Institutes (Programme) of All India Radio (AIR) established in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more Staff Training Institutes in 1999-2000 specially in Srinagar (J&K); and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHAR NAQVI):

(a) Apart from the two Staff Training Institutes (Programme) of AIR at Delhi and Cuttack, there are 5 Regional Training Institutes (Programme) located at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Shillong, Lucknow and Thiruvananthapuram).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Railways
Closure of Diesel Loco Shed at Purna

3616. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to shut down the Diesel Loco Shed at Purna in South Central Railway; and

(b) if so, 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) No, Sir. There is no diesel shed at Purna. However, a metre gauge satellite diesel shed which became dormant due to gauge conversion has been modified to undertake minor repair of broad gauge diesel locomotive.

(b) Does not arise.

132 *Kerala*
Kannur Airport

3617. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the techno-economic feasibility study has been conducted for setting up an Airport at Kannur in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the findings of the study team;

(c) whether the proposed Airport is going to be set up under the Government sector or Joint sector or private sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) :

(a) and (b) A preliminary technical feasibility study has been conducted by Airports Authority of India (AAI). A high level team had also visited the site near Moorkhapuramba on 15.12.98 and has given the following findings for the construction of new airport at Kannur :-

(i) A runway of 6600 ft. length only with orientation 08/26 is possible.

(ii) Removal of TV/Microwave Antenna on the hill top in the approach path of runway is desirable for all weather operations. If this obstruction is not removed then operations may be unidirectional i.e. landing from one direction and take off from other direction.

(iii) Change of the runway orientation by 30 degree may make more runway length available but it will not be suitable for small aircraft operation like F-27 because of heavy cross wind components. It may be a cost prohibitive project as heavy earth filling work is involved, because of deep drops at both ends. It would therefore not be economically feasible to develop a runway of 7500 feet length.

(c) and (d) The matter is under examination.