

(d) the time by which International Terminal will be dedicated to the nation; and

(e) the international flights that are proposed to be operated from Bangalore?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) (a) to (d) Airports Authority of India has undertaken the upgradation work of International Terminal at Bangalore airport at a cost of Rs. 21.83 crores. This work is expected to be completed by December, 1998 and the terminal would be commissioned by January, 1999. Central air conditioning and installation and commissioning of aerobridges will be done by June, 1999.

(e) It is proposed to operate more international flights from Bangalore, details of which are being worked out. At present, Indian Airlines is operating the following international flights from Bangalore

Bangalore - Muscat	Thrice a week;
Bangalore - Sharjah	Thrice a week;
Bangalore - Singapore	Thrice a week;

[Translation]

Selling of Steel at Cheap Rate in B.S.P.

3115 SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether in league with a private agency officers of Bokaro Steel Plant sold steel at cheap rate due to which the plant incurred a loss of Rs. 2.45 crore;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard, and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith the action taken against the person found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[English]

Shifting of Zonal Office

3116. SHRI H.G. RAMULU :
SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the South Western Zone was established in Bangalore;

(b) - whether there is any proposal to shift the above zone to Hubli;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be shifted;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up Railway Recruitment Board in Hubli; and

(e) if so, the details thereof;?

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) The South Western Zone was established on 16.9.1996 and inaugural function was held on 1.11.1996.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Upgradation of Thiruvananthapuram Airport

3117. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the detail of the proposals that are under consideration of the Government to expand and modernise the Thiruvananthapuram Airport;

(b) whether the facilities at the Airport will be expanded to facilitate the operation of night flight services of both Air India and Indian Airlines there; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) The following development works have been undertaken at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport :-

(1) Extension of apron is likely to be completed in December, 1998;

(2) Air-conditioning of the international terminal building is likely to be completed in December, 1998; and

(3) Interim modification to the Terminal Building is likely to be completed in March, 1999.

(b) and (c) Night landing facilities already exist at Thiruvananthapuram airport.

[Translation]

Opening of Computerised Reservation Counters

3118. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received demands for opening of more computerised reservation counters under the Eastern Zone particularly at Daltonganj;