

Bigger Aircraft on Delhi-Aurangabad Sector

3145. SHRI SURESH WARPUDKAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any request has been received by the Government for replacement of Boeing Aircrafts on Delhi-Aurangabad Sector by bigger aircraft by the Alliance Air;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A request has been received to replace the Boeing Aircraft by Airbus on the sector Delhi-Aurangabad. Due to low passengers demand, Indian Airlines has no immediate plans to operate services on Delhi-Aurangabad route with bigger aircraft.

Flights Diverted from Calicut

3146 SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any aircrafts had been diverted from Calicut Airport during the last monsoon;
- (b) if so, the reasons of such diversion;
- (c) whether the instrumental landing system at Calicut Airport is fully operational; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The flights have been diverted during the monsoon because of poor visibility.

(c) and (d) Instrumental Landing System (Category I) is operational at Calicut airport. However, flights have to be diverted if the visibility minima conditions for ILS are not met.

Routes of Air India

3147. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the places from where Air India have stopped its operation due to various reasons during the last three years alongwith the reasons therefore; and
- (b) the loss incurred due to cancellation of such flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) During the years 1995-1997, Air India has withdrawn its operations to Entebbe Perth, Johannesburg, Durban, Zurich, Amsterdam, Toronto, Tel Aviv, Geneva and Seoul. In addition terminator services

to London have also been withdrawn. Operations to above destinations were not economically viable. Total operating losses on these routes are as under :-

Year	Loss (Rs. in crores)
1995-96	362.87
1996-97	376.80
1997-98	156.76

Gauge Conversion of Barsoi-Radhikapur Rail Line

3148. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the proposal for gauge conversion of Barsoi to Radhikapur metre gauge line into broad gauge upto Bangladesh Border has been approved by the Government;
- (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) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Constraint of resources.

Extension of Train

3149. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received demands from various organisations and Members of Parliament for extension of 40 Up and 39 Dn Mumbai-Ahmedabad passenger train upto Abu Road Junction;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

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) Some representations have been received for extension of 39/40 Bandra-Ahmedabad Passenger upto Abu Road. The same have been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.