

**Rationalisation of Air India and
Indian Airlines Operations**

570. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India and Indian Airlines has decided to synchronise their operations in areas relating to information technology, ground transfer, scheduling of routes, fare rationalisation, engineering, space accommodation, appointment of common sales agents, advertising, marketing promotion and the ground handling of flights;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons behind this move?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. With a view to optimise utilisation of the resources and to improve operational and financial efficiencies, the Government has issued a directive in December, 1998, advising both the airlines as below:—

(i) Rationalise schedules; (ii) Establish common rated fares; (iii) Expand code share arrangements; (iv) Maintain common offices/GSAs as far as possible; (v) Explore the possibility of leasing in and leasing out of capacity to/from each other at the going market rates; (vi) Undertake joint advertisement promotion, marketing activities; and (vii) coordinate ground handling of flights and related activities.

Stoppage of Hussain Sagar at Seram

571. SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL SEDAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the people of Sedam have agitated for demanding the stoppage of Hussain-Sagar train at Seram;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for providing stoppage of Hussain-Sagar at Seram to fulfill the demand of local people?

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) Yes, Sir. The agitation was held during January-February 1995.

(c) Stoppage of 7001/7002 Mumbai-Hyderabad Hussain-Sagar Express has been provided at Seram from 15.3.1995.

[Translation]

Opening of Akashwani Kendra at Neemuch in M.P.

572. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long-standing demand for opening of a Akashwani Kendra at Neemuch district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The project could not be included in the 8th plan due to constraint of resources. However, the project is proposed to be taken up in the 9th Plan subject to availability of resources and infrastructural facilities.

**Skilled Workers for Army Vehicles Factory,
Jabalpur**

573. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a requisition for 200 skilled workers duly approved by the Ordnance Factory Board for manufacturing modern Army vehicles in the Army Vehicle factory, Jabalpur is pending for clearance; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.