

Mahal Station near Jabalpur are inadequate to meet the demand of passengers;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide stoppage of all mail and express trains at the station in view of its central location; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Delay in Air India Flights

2806. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Ratty business abroad A.I." appearing in the Times of India dated July 17, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the steps taken by the Government in the matter; and

(c) the total number of flights delayed due to rat menace in the last couple of months?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Air India flight No. 304 Bombay-Delhi-Tokyo of July 17, 1991 was delayed by 5 hrs. 15 minutes and operated with another aircraft because of a rat having been noticed in that aircraft while

flying from Muscat to Bombay. In consultation with experts, Air India takes regular rodent control measures like fumigation of the aircraft and use of rodent control devices like rat traps and glue plates inside the aircraft. Rodent control measures are also carried out in the hangars, cabin catering building and canteen hi-lifts.

(c) During the months of June and July, 1991, the following three flights were delayed due to ratmenace:

1. AI-112 of July 7, 1991-New York/London/Delhi/Bombay.

2. AI-830 of July 13, 1991-Bombay/Trivandrum.

3. AI/304 of July 17, 1991-Bombay/Delhi/Tokyo.

Discontinuance of Vayudoot/Airbus Service

2807. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vayudoot/Airbus services from Bombay-Pune-Bombay (Evening flight), Pune-Hyderabad, Pune-Nagpur, Pune-Aurangabad have been discontinued for the last several months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) when these services are likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). At present Vayudoot is operating on the Bombay-Pune-Bombay and Hyderabad-Pune routes. For commercial and operational reasons, air services between Pune-Nagpur and Pune-Aurangabad have been discontinued. There is no proposal to