

कापका नाम रिकार्ड में नहीं

है।

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing has gone on record—nobody's name.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): If you have very kindly allowed his name not to go on record, it is all right. Otherwise..

MR. SPEAKER: I have already done that.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Thank you.

Linking of States capitals by air with Delhi

*355. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ensured that all the capitals of the States including Himachal Pradesh would be linked by air with the Union Capital; and

(b) if so, the likely date by which this would be done, including the linking of Simla with Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b). The capitals of all States except those of Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Nagaland are already linked by air with Delhi. It is proposed to airlink the capitals of these States as and when Vayudoot services are introduced in these areas.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: May I know from the hon. Minister whether Simla would be airlinked by introducing Vayudoot service without building the aerodrome? In that case, I would like to know what is the position with regard to the building of aerodrome at Simla,

**Not recorded.

which has also been the summer capital of the Union of India and not only State Capital?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): In the main answer to the question, it has been clearly said that when the decision is taken for airlinking these places, particularly Simla—the question is about Simla—then we will take the decision to construct an airport at Simla. As a matter of fact, in 1976, on the demand of the H.P. Government, an estimate for Rs. 7.60 crores was prepared for constructing an airport at Simla. But due to paucity of funds, this proposal not having found place both in the fifth plan and sixth plan, it has not been possible to take any steps for constructing an airport at Simla. But as soon as a decision is taken to introduce feeder service i.e., third airline service in this area we will take up construction of an aerodrome at Simla. For the information of my friend I would like to tell him that by the third week of April we are going to operate Indian Airline service upto Kulu.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Now that the State Government has again taken up the question of construction of an aerodrome at Simla and the hon. Chief Minister, Shri Ram Lal, has already met the Minister, Shri A. P. Sharma, what is the latest progress in this regards? How soon will we have the aerodrome at Simla especially during the Sixth Five Year Plan?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: I have already said that it has not been provided in the Sixth Five Year Plan. But even if we think of constructing an airport at Simla it is likely to cost Rs. 14 crores. Due to paucity of funds it is not possible for the Government to take it up at present.

SHRI M. M. LAWRENCE: There is a great rush of traffic from Cochin and Trivandrum. The hon. Minister has promised to start a flight from

Delhi to Trivandrum and Cochin. Will the hon. Minister say when it will be started?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: This does not arise out of the main question.

SHRI M. M. LAWRENCE: Trivandrum is the capital of the State.

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: It is already airlinked.

SHRI RATANSINGH RAJDA: Arising out of this during the second world war an airport was constructed near Jamnagar at Khambhalia. That is a very strategic airport. From that airport our plane can reach Karachi within 5 to 7 minutes. That airport is out of commission at present. Will the hon. Minister take steps to see that this airport is put into commission?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: This question relates to air-linking of State capitals. My friend's question does not arise out of this question. But I can tell him that there is no such proposal for the present.

SHRI RATANSINGH RAJDA: But the airport had already been constructed. It is a question of utilising it.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question—Shri Ram Pyare Panika—Absent, Q. No. 357—Shri Arunachalam—Absent. Shri Rahia—Absent. We will have to do something about it.

Demonstrations by Income-tax officers of Western Maharashtra

*358. **SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Income-tax Officers all over Western Maharashtra staged demonstrations in front of their offices on or about 9th February 1981;

(b) the demands of these Officers; and

(c) Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Income-tax Officers of the Commissioner of Income-tax Bombay Charge, had staged demonstrations during the Protest Week from 9th to 13th February, 1981.

(b) The demands are as follows:—

(i) Abolition of class distinction among the Income-tax Officers functioning on inter-changeable posts;

(ii) Immediate promotion of all Group 'B' Income-tax Officers with five years or more service to the Group 'A' senior scale;

(iii) Grant of pay-scale of Rs. 840—1200 to the Incometax Officers (Group 'B');

(iv) Scrapping of seniority rules of 1973;

(v) Fixation of reasonable and scientific norms for all the grades of the officers of the Department; and

(vi) Proper cadre management for all officers in consultation with the Federation.

(c) These demands have been carefully examined from time to time but it has not been found possible to accept them in the form presented. The question, however, of improving the career prospects of the officers in the Incometax Department is kept under constant review and appropriate action taken as and when considered necessary.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: The statement of the Government says that it has not been found possible to accept them (the demands) in the form presented. It is a very vague statement. I would request the Gov-