

**DISCONNECTION OF HOTLINES LINKING
VARIOUS AIRPORTS**

*320. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD } :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to disconnect the hotlines linking various airports in the country as a result of the poor functioning of the same;

(b) if so, whether it has jeopardised the safety of the aircraft; and

(c) what other arrangements have been made to ensure proper link among the various airports and ensure the safety of aircraft ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA) : (a) The Civil Aviation Department took a decision to surrender certain fully dedicated land-line speech circuits hired from Post and Telegraph Department on rental due to their low performance level. The speech circuits were, however, never disconnected and are still available. The Civil Aviation Department have been directed not to surrender these lines. The Post and Telegraph Department have been asked to improve the efficiency of these lines.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In the event of unserviceability of the Direct Speech Circuits messages to airports are routed through

- (1) Inter-area Radio Telephony Network connecting Bombay-Calcutta-Delhi-Madras-Nagpur;
- (2) Inter-Tower Radio Telephony Network linking all airports; and
- (3) Land Line Teleprinter Circuits and Manual Radio Telegraphy Circuits.

The Civil Aviation Department is improving secondary means of communication systems. Efforts are also being made to establish high frequency Single Side Band network and exploring the feasibility of using spare capacity of micro wave links of Railways.

**STRIKES BY EMPLOYEES OF RESERVE BANK
OF INDIA**

*321. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Calcutta and other branches of the Reserve Bank of India have been affected by employees' strikes or go slow or other tactics; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to end this state of affairs ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The agitation launched by some Class III employees of Reserve Bank of India, beginning with a strike on 12th April 1982, in protest against the implementation of the award of the National Industrial Tribunal has subsided and normalcy has been restored at all centres except Calcutta. In Calcutta, the class III employees in Note Examination and Verification Sections have resorted to go slow and are returning the increased quota of work issued to them everyday besides causing physical obstruction.

The Government feels that the agitation has absolutely no justification on merit and must be withdrawn unconditionally. Besides initiating appropriate disciplinary action against the agitating employees, effecting proportionate wage cuts and obtaining Court injunctions against the employees restraining them from obstructing work, Reserve Bank has also taken all possible steps to meet the situation arising out of the agitation.

EXPORT OF IRON ORE FROM PARADIP

*322. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of iron ore from Paradip Port has been suspended;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by Government to continue the export of iron ore from Paradip port ?