

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

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## LOK SABHA

Friday, June 20, 1980 Jyaistha 30,  
1902 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Calicut Airport

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\*183. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

SHRI A. K. BALAN:

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

(a) what is the progress of the proposed Calicut Airport; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b). The proposal for construction of an airport at Karipur near Calicut at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.52 crores is under active consideration of the Government. The proposal is included in the current Five Year Plan (1978—83). A token provision has been made in the budget for 1980-81. A decision is likely to be taken very shortly.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: In 1971, 86.5 acres of land was taken over by the Government of Kerala and given to the Government of India for constructing the airport. An approach road was also constructed. When-

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ever the Government of India was approached, they said that it was under active consideration. After a lapse of 9 years, the reply is the same that it is under active consideration. What does it mean? Will the Minister give a final date by which time this airport will be sanctioned?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: It is true that the construction of this aerodrome has been delayed for some reason or the other. Of course, there are a series of reasons but I do not want to read them out. When I said that it is under active consideration of the Government, the position is that on 16th June, 1980 EFC Memo was circulated to the appraising agencies for comments before putting up the proposal before the Expenditure Finance Committee. As soon as the Expenditure Finance Committee clears this, this will become a reality.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Can the Minister give an assurance about the date and time when it is going to be taken up?

SHRI A. P. SHARMA: When I said shortly, it does not mean that it will be delayed just like in the past. It means that it will be cleared shortly. I expect that in the next two or three months, it will be finalised.

SHRI A. K. BALAN: The answer is not satisfactory. This is a case of sheer neglect. This is an important airport for the State of Kerala. 10 years ago they acquired 86.5 acres of land and an approach road was also constructed. The State Government incurred an expenditure of Rs. 15 lakhs. I would like to ask specifically whether the Minister will sanction this airport this year itself?

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** I have said that it will be possible within the next two or three months to clear it. What more can I say?

**SHRI SANJAY GANDHI:** Will the Minister tell us that in the three years of Janata rule... (*Interruption*)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Why are you agitated? Let him have his own say.

**SHRI SANJAY GANDHI:** In the three years of Janata rule when that Government was in alliance with the CPI(M) or it was given active support by CPI(M), was any progress made in the construction of this airport?

(*Interruption*)

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** Sir, it is true that the work could have been started towards the end of the year 1976 itself and the DGCA actually submitted an estimate for Rs. 110 lakhs for construction of aerodrome at Calicut. But since 1977 till this year practically no steps have been taken to expedite this decision and go into action, and it was only on the 28th March 1980 that the DGCA again submitted a revised estimate for Rs. 2.5 crores for construction of an aerodrome suitable for HS-748 operation and as I have stated earlier, this proposal now by this Government is going to be finalised within the next two or three months.

(*Interruptions*)

**SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN:** Sir, what we are seeking for Calicut is not any charity or any special consideration. I want to inform you, since you have come to this House recently, that this was promised by Rafi Ahmed Kidwai. (*Interruptions*). Right from those days all successive governments have promised this airport.

That is because it is the nerve centre of the area, Malabar region,

with more than one crore of population, and the entire development has been stalled because of want of an airport facility. (*Interruptions*).

It was promised by Raj Bahadur Ji, Dr. Karan Singh and everybody and also allotments were made. Every year it lapsed. What I want to know from the hon. Minister is whether he is aware that Air India sells more than Rs. 80 lakhs or Rs. 1 crore worth of tickets in this city alone which is considered to be a small office, and whether he will, when he has the size of the airport to decide upon, take this factors also into consideration.

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** All the factors have been taken into consideration and it is only after that we have come to this conclusion.

**श्री रतन सिंह राजडा :** मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि 71 से यह प्लान बना हुआ था एयर पोर्ट के बारे में तो उस वक्त तो कांग्रेस की सरकार थी 76 तक, तो क्या यह सच बात है कि कांग्रेस (आई) और सी.पी.आई. के एलायंस की दजह से यह काम नहीं हुआ?

**MR. SPEAKER:** Nothing is left in this small question. Next question, Shri Manoharlal Saini.

**SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA:** Sir, I want an answer from the hon. Minister.

**SHRI A. P. SHARMA:** Sir, this is an irrelevant question. It does not call for an answer.

### कच्चे लोहे का उत्पादन

184. **श्री मनोहर लाल सैनी :** क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में प्रति वर्ष उत्पादित कच्चे लोहे की मात्रा कितनी है और उन देशों के नाम क्या हैं जिनमें हरियाणा में बने कच्चे लोहे का निर्यात किया जा रहा है; और