

other places for the provision of air-journey facilities to them. We make all out efforts and we are also making efforts to provide this facility to one and all. Now we have 50 aircrafts with the Air-India and 10 mini aircrafts with the Vayudoot. We are making efforts to provide this facility in the whole of India with the help of these airlines. So far as Gorakhpur is concerned, we will keep it in view and try to provide this facility to that city also as soon as we find it convenient to do so.

[English]

SHRI D. N. REDDY : The Hon. Minister is aware that in the last three months, punctuality of the flights has been the first victim. It has never been so bad as of now. It is reported that it is due to the shortage of aircrafts and often there is failure of the engine, fortunately at the ground level. What has the Hon. Minister to say about this, especially regarding the Hyderabad-Delhi flights where in a few days, there were two or three delays of nearly three to five hours? In the other flights also, things are not better. It is almost a daily phenomenon of one or two hours delay and often we see that there is delay in the flights. Have you got anything to say by giving an assurance that things will become better?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : It has been my endeavour to bring to the notice of the Hon. Members of this House and the people outside that we have very few aircrafts, with us and with those few aircrafts, we have to meet all the demands. I told while replying to the previous question that we have 50 aircrafts. But out of those 50 aircrafts, two aircrafts have met with accidents and I am told only today that one aircraft was hit by a bird and that aircraft has also got affected. So, we have hardly 47 or 48 aircrafts and we are doing with that. When there is delay because of certain reasons at one place, that delay goes on accumulating and at the end of the day, the accumulated delay becomes very very pronounced. I am really sorry that there have been delays but we will try to improve upon this situation by inducting more aircraft. We are trying to purchase more aircraft, acquire more aircraft, get aircraft on lease and try to provide the facilities.

Now, this is the only method which can really be useful for us and we are trying to do that.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Sir, there are a few Avro flights in this country whereby some places have been connected and most of the Avro flights are almost grounded off and on. It happened generally in Belgaon and Bombay. And secondly the runway where the boeing would land is not well-suited. I would like to know whether there is any proposal before the Government to recarpet this runway and replace the old cart like Avros with a flying machine.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Yes, I do realise that this is also a demand in light of the facilities that are there at that place. We will certainly keep that in mind and try to do our best to see that some facility is made available to the people of that area. I have been saying that we do have a plan. We would like to proceed according to the plan. We would like to improve the runway. We would like to induct new aircrafts also and provide the necessary facilities.

Development of monuments in Orissa as tourist spots

*167. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa State has many old monuments and other spots which can attract international tourists but have not yet been developed as tourist spots,

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to locate these spots and, if so, the steps being taken to develop these spots to promote tourism in Orissa State; and

(c) the details of facilities being given to international tourists who come to see India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to undertaking planned and integrated development of tourist centres in Orissa, the Ministry of Tourism, in consultation with the State Government, has identified two travel circuits for development in a phased manner with the combined resources of the Centre, State Government and the Private Sector.

(c) The details of facilities which are being provided to international tourists who come to see India include accommodation, transport, guide services, package tours, facilitation at the port of entry, tourist information, recreation and entertainment, etc.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the Hon. Minister to the answer given by his predecessor in this House on 28 March, 1980. While replying to Starred Question No. 488, he informed the House that the State Government of Orissa has sent 15 proposals for the development of tourist spot in that state. The State Government has already submitted the proposals to the Central Government. The Hon. Minister then also said that these 15 new proposals would be considered in the year 1988-89. Now since there is a need to develop the new tourist spots, may I know from the Minister as to what is the fate of those old as well as new proposals in this regard? How much fund has been allotted to the State of Orissa for the development of tourist spots in that State?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, old proposals have been examined and some of them have been accepted. We are providing money to them. New proposals are also being examined and we will try to give them money. About Rs. 72 lakhs have been provided to Orissa Government.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, my second supplementary is whether the air travel and fast food centres are among those facilities provided to the tourists as it will attract foreign as well as Indian tourists. In this connection, may I know whether the Government will agree to introduce one air bus or a boeing flight from Bhubaneswar to Andaman and Nicobar? And also since

there was no direct flight to Madras from Bhubaneswar, Government agreed to introduce a direct flight from Bhubaneswar to Madras. So, whether the Government has any plan to introduce a direct flight from Bhubaneswar to Andaman and Nicobar also, if so, what is the development in this regard and when will it be implemented? Also, is it a fact that there is not a single fast food centre in the State of Orissa? If so, whether the Government will assure us that the steps will be taken to open a fast food centre in that State also?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Again, this is a question demanding a new flight, from Delhi to Bhubaneswar, Bhubaneswar to Andaman and Nicobar and Calcutta. We are really very sympathetic to all such demands and nobody will be as happy as we in the Aviation Ministry would be, if we were in a position to meet all these demands.

MR. SPEAKER : Can't you do it without aircraft?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : If it can be done without aircraft, we would say 'yes' to every demand. After getting the aircraft and finding that it is feasible, something can be considered in this respect. But this is no assurance.

As far as the fast food stalls are concerned, we from the Central Government do not start fast food stalls in different States. It is for the private parties or for the State Government concerned to take action in this regard. If they wish to set up fast food stalls, they are at liberty to do so.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The Hon. Member has mentioned in so many words about the shortage of aircraft. If that be so, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether the utilisation of aircraft is over-stretched and whether this is the reason for so many delayed flights and so many snags at the time of the departure of the aircraft?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Nobody knows about all these things better than the

Hon. Member who has put this question because he has seen the activities of the Ministry from inside.

MR. SPEAKER : That is why he is putting the question.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Also, while putting the question, he has answered it. He clubbed both the question and the answer. It is a fact that we have been stretching our machines and the manpower to the maximum extent. Sometimes it does affect us also. What I have been trying to say is that some sort of cushion is required to absorb these types of shocks and these types of contingencies and unforeseen events. That becomes possible after having enough number of aircraft.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Sir, stone carvings and Buddhist writings and inscriptions on stones are found at Jaugada in Ganjam District of Orissa. Our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi also visited this place and he was impressed. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether Jaugada will be included as a place of tourism and whether the Minister will talk to the Government of Orissa and see that sufficient funds are allotted to develop Jaugada and declare it as a place of tourism.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Mr. Minister, there is writing on the wall !

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Yes Sir, writings on the walls are visible to all of us.

Orissa is a State where there are many beautiful tourist spots. As regards asking the State Government to take up this matter and develop this place into a tourist spot, well we can plead the case of Hon. Member. We would like the Hon. Member also to put this matter before his State.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : I would like to know the names of those tourist spots which are included in the proposed two travel circuits mentioned by the Hon. Minister. Another point that I want to know specifically is whether Konarak, Ratnagiri and Udayagiri Buddhist Centres, Gopalpur, Chilka, Puri are going to be

connected by any air service—either by the normal Airlines Service or by Vayudoot. Is there any such proposal under the consideration of the Government ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, the two circuits about which I have talked consists of Bhubaneswar—Puri—Konark—Dhuli—Ratnagiri—Lalitgiri — Udaigiri—Bhadrak—Chandipur—Khiching— Joshipur and back.

And the second circuit consists of Bhubaneswar—Chilka Lake—Gopalpur—on—sea—Taptapani — Koraput — Bolangir—Jharsuguda — Angul — Tikkarpara — Talcher and back.

As far as starting of the flights at those places is concerned. I shall have to look into all these details and then only I will be able to answer.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Sir the Hon. Minister has conceded that Orissa has very scenic and beautiful spots and has also named a few. I would like to know what steps the Government is taking to provide some tourist facilities at Lalitgiri which is a Buddhist Mahavihar, which has been discovered by the Archeological Survey of India. Secondly there is a cluster of 84 hot springs known as Deuljhri in Athmallik Sub-Division of Dhenkanal.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir these are the individual spots about which I will collect the information and give it to the Hon. Member. But I would like to say that if there are any spots where any facilities are to be provided, we would discuss this matter with the State Government and persuade them to do something over there and we would also help them.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri V. Sreenivasa Prasad.

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Q. No. 170 Sir, the question which I asked was about the Railway Safety put to the Railway Minister but the answer is given by the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Both are inter-connected !

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Sir, it is really fantastic.

MR. SPEAKER : Since this question relates to travel, it is obvious that they have established a relationship between the two.

[*English*]

Report of Commissioners of
Railway Safety on railway
accidents

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*170. **SHRI V. SREENIVASA**

**PRASAD ;
SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN
SINHA :**

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

(a) whether the reports submitted by the Commissioners of Railway Safety on serious railway accidents are treated as confidential;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government intend to make these reports public; and

(d) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reports submitted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety are invariably kept confidential till all actions on the findings and recommendations thereon have been completed smoothly by the Railway Board.

(c) and (d). The Reports of the Commissioners, containing matters of general and technical interest, are always made public as soon as possible, after the follow up action has been completed.

[*English*]

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whenever a serious Railway Accident takes place, a Report is submitted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety. I would like to know from the Minister, since public memory is very short, whether he will consider the suggestion that at least the reasons for the accidents should be made known to the public immediately and the follow-up and other things can be taken up later on.

As soon as the Report comes out certainly the causes or the reasons of the accidents should be made known to the public. Will the Minister consider this thing ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I am answering this question because the Commissioner of Railway Safety is under the Civil Aviation Ministry. They wanted to separate the Commissioner of Railway Safety from the Railway Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER : Our Minister will become the Minister of Accident !

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : No, Sir; Accident Inquiry Minister. Because they wanted that this part of the activity should be separated from the Railway Ministry so it was put under the Civil Aviation Ministry, to make it independent of the Railways. This Commission is expected to inquire into the accidents that take place, prepare a Report and send that Report to the Railways. After that the Railways are expected to take action on them. The reason why the Report is not disclosed to the people is that after the accident takes place the matter is also investigated into by the police. Then the Reports are filed by the police in a Court of law and the judgements are given by a Court of law. In order to see that there is no contempt of the court and to see that there is no hindrance caused to the investigation by the Police into the causes of accidents also, the report is not published in the initial stages. But after the action is taken, action is completed, the salient features of the report, and sometimes the entire report as such are brought to the notice of the public at large.