

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The works relating to strengthening and extension of runways as well as construction of passenger terminal -and allied facilities are taken up simultaneously as per the operational requirements.

(c) and (d) The runway 10/28 is the main runway and 27 is the secondary runway. Since the main runway is primarily used, its length is more. However, runway 27 *is* being resurfaced as it was due for resurfacing.

Upgradation of Flight Information Display System

644. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the AAI proposes to upgrade the outdated flight information display system at five major airfields; and

(b) if so, the details of this plan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Modern flight information display systems have been provided at Terminals IA and II of Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIAP), Delhi, Terminal II of Mumbai airport and terminal at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport (NSCBIAP) Calcutta. The same will be upgraded by 2000-2001 at Terminal I-B of IGIAP, terminals IA and IB of Mumbai airport and at Domestic and International Terminals at Chennai airport.

Corruption in Commercial Wing of AI

645. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI ABANI ROY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India is losing crores of rupees due to large scale corruption in the commercial wing;

(b) if so, whether Government have received spate of representations in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the unscrupulous travel agents are mostly responsible in bringing Air India into red; and

(e) if so, the corrective steps Government propose to take to overhaul the system of Air India and to make it profitable;?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (e) Some complaints have been received with regard to the working of the commercial wing of Air India. These are under examination.

Increasing the Frequency of Delhi-Guwahati-Imphal Flight Service

646. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to increase the number of flights from Imphal to Delhi via Guwahati or any other airport;

(b) whether the private airlines are reluctant to operate in the North-East Airports specially Imphal airport;

(c) if not, the reasons for the Sahara airlines to drop the flight to Imphal airport; and

(d) the number of private airlines in India with their names?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Operators are free to operate to any place/on route in their commercial judgement subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines, which provide for certain minimum operations in the North East and some other far flung areas.

(d) At present, M/s Jet Airways (I) Pvt. Ltd. and Sahara Airlines are the only private scheduled operators operating scheduled air services in the country.

Development of Visakhapatnam Airport

647. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has agreed to develop Visakhapatnam airport for landing of wider aircrafts;