

police. Foreign businessmen are permitted to trade only in luxury items and in the wholesale business. A list has been published by the Maldivian Government categorising luxury items and the minimum quantity categorised as 'whole sale' for other items. Foreign businessmen cannot indulge in retail trade and must employ local Maldivians as shop Assistants.

(c) Payments to the Maldivian Government are to be made in Maldivian rupees. However, the American dollar is the most commonly used currency., (a) Maldivian Rs. 7.50 US. Traders are free to accept any currency, including Indian rupees.

(d) A Passport and a Health Certificate for inoculation against cholera and small-pox are required for visiting the Maldives. Visa is not required. There is no restriction on the length of stay in Maldives for foreign visitors.

Congestion at and around New Delhi Railway Station

•IOO. SHRIMATI HAMIDA
HABIBULLAH:
SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:
SHRI SAWAISINGH
SISODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be please^ to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to reduce congestion at and around New Delhi Railway Station; and

(b) if so, what are the details in its regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

To ease congestion at New Delhi, the following works have been undertaken:—

1. Fruit, minerals and cement

sidings shifted from New Delhi Railway Station to New Azadpur, Tughlakabad and Shakurbasti respectively.

2. Along with 1 above, one additional island platform and additional washing and stabling lines have been provided.

3. A second entry to the New Delhi Railway Station from Thompson Road side is proposed to be provided.

4. Along with item 3 above, one more island platform, a parcell-foot-over bridge and more stabling and washing lines, a station building with booking facilities, circulating area for passenger traffic, extension of two existing foot-over bridges and other allied facilities will be provided on Thompson Road side of New Delhi station.

5. 20 ft. width of land on either side of Chelmsford Road leading from Connaught Place belonging to the Railways has been relinquished to the New Delhi Municipal Committee for widening the road.

6. The Circulating area in front of New Delhi Railway Station is proposed to be improved. Measures for easy circulation of passengers on platforms have been taken to reduce congestion.

7. In order to expedite reception and despatch of trains, the modern system of route relay interlocking has also been sanctioned, as part of the second and final phase of the plan for Second Entry to New Delhi, for the entire New Delhi yard complex.

8. A survey to develop Hazrat Nizamuddin as a satellite Passenger-cum-Parcel Complex (3rd coaching terminal for Delhi area) is in progress.

9. The work of land acquisition for item 8 above is also in progress.