

handling facilities and development of pavements for regular B-737 aircraft operations. It is proposed to extend and strengthen the runway width and strength in the taxi-track, width and strength in the apron and extend the terminal building and car park.

1055. [*Transferred to the 23rd December, 1977*].

Nomination of Persons in Government Undertakings

1056. DR. V. P. DUTT :
SHRI HARSH DEO
MALAVIYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to debar persons convicted of smuggling and similar economic offences from being nominated to the Boards of Directors of the Government, semi-Government or public sector undertakings ;

(b) if so, by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the cases of all nominated persons in the light of the above proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGARWAL) : (a) to (c) A person convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude would be regarded as ineligible for Government service. In cases where the appointing authorities feel that there are redeeming features and reasons to believe that such a person has cured himself of the weakness, specific approval of the Government may be obtained to his employment. In accordance with the above criteria, each case has to be examined from the view point of whether the offence committed by a person involved moral turpitude or not. These general instructions would equally apply to nominations to semi-government or public sector undertakings. Therefore, the question of a separate proposal for debarring persons convicted of smuggling and

similar economic offences from being nominated to the Boards of Directors of the Government, semi-Government or public sector undertakings does not arise.

Dry Port in the Northern Region

1057. SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA :
SHRI PRAKASH
MEHROTRA :
SHRIMATI HAMIDA.
HABIBULLAH :
SHRI SAWAISINGH
SISODIA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have decided in principle, to establish a dry port in the Northern Region of the country;

(b) whether suitable location for this purpose has been chosen, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the names of the States which put forward their claims for the location of the port in their respective areas and what criteria were followed in making a selection of the place ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI ARIF BEG) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar and Assam and Union Territory of Delhi had requested for the setting up of dry port in their States/Territory.

The final location has not been selected so far, as the Government have come to the conclusion to defer decision on this issue considering that the Project is not of immediate priority in the present stage of economy.