

[22 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

of Indian Airlines had recommended that the modernisation of Indian Airlines Jet fleet should be accorded a higher priority.

A Techno Economic evaluation study, to replace the ageing fleet of B-737 and A-300 aircraft and also to augment fleet capacity of Indian Airlines, is currently underway.

New Airports in Bihar

†3126. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to construct the new airports in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No new focal point of traffic has emerged with sufficient viability, and no airline operator has requested for starting services from any place which does not have airport.

Loss making small Airports

3127. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in 16th July, Calcutta edition of Times of India with the caption "Privatisation fear to hit AAI staff, warn panel";

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to lease out Airports of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai; and

(c) if so, who will bear the running of loss making small Airports?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.