

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Minister had an informal meeting with the press on the 28th May 1970 on the eve of his departure on an official visit to West Germany, Yugoslavia and Iran. A statement showing the names of the newspapers and agencies whose representatives attended the meeting is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

1. PTI
2. UNI
3. Hindustan Sanachar
4. Samachar Bharati
5. Hindi Hindustan
6. Nav Bharat Times
7. A. B. Patrika
8. Hindustan Standard
9. Free Press Journal
10. Hindu
11. AIR
12. Tribune
13. Hindustan Times
14. Indian Express;
15. Patriot
16. Statesman
17. Times of India.
18. National Herald
19. Economic Times
20. Financial Express

*34. [Transferred to the 6th August, 1970.]

CALICUT AIRPORT

- *35. SHRI K. V. BHADRAN :
SHRI S. K. MARAN :
SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON:
DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN :

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

(a) the time by when the proposed airport at Calicut in Kerala would be commissioned into service; and

(b) the estimated cost of the proposed airport and the preliminary work that has been done'

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) The project has been approved in principle and, Rs. 9,07,925 have already been sanctioned for acquisition of land. The State Government has initiated proceedings for this purpose. Thereafter, other works will be taken in hand to the extent resources can be made available within the Fourth Plan ceiling. It is not possible, at this stage, to give the date on which the air port will be commissioned.

STEPS TO COUNTER COMMUNALISM

*36. SHRI M. V. BHADRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether she had in recent communication to the Chief Ministers, called upon them on to take stringent action to curb the forces of communalism; and

(b) if so, whether the State Governments have taken any action in this respect?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) On May 27, 1970 the Prime Minister wrote to all Chief Ministers to acquaint them with the outcome of her discussions regarding the communal problem with some of the Chief Ministers in Delhi on May 23. In that letter she impressed upon them the urgent need for utmost vigilance and strong action on the part of the administration to curb the forces that encourage communalism.

(b) The replies received from the State Governments so far indicate that action is being taken in the light of the outcome of the discussions with the Chief Ministers.

LANDING OF JUMBO JET AT DUM DUM

*37. SHRI KALYAN ROY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Basumati (Calcutta Daily) of 27th April, 1970, under the caption "Jumbo Jet of Air India";