

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

TRANSIT FACILITIES AT SANTA CRUZ AIRPORT

***335. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that transit facilities at the Santa Cruz Airport in Bombay are very poor; and

(b) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to modify them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): (a) and (b) Due to progressively increased capacity offered by modern aircraft the transit facilities at the Santa Cruz airport need augmentation. Director General of Civil Aviation is preparing plans in consultation with the architects of the Central P.W.D. for providing increased facilities to cope with the traffic.

PROBLEMS OF SUGAR INDUSTRY

***336. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar have recently urged the Central Government to appoint a committee to go into the problems of sugar industry on an all-India basis; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

CONVERSION OF MIRAJ-LATUR RAIL LINK

***339. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to convert the Miraj-Latur rail link into metre or broad gauge; and

(b) if so, the nature of decision arrived at?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) No, Sir. The project is not included in the Railways' Programme of construction during the Third Plan Period.

(b) Does not arise.

DELAY IN DELIVERY OF TELEGRAMS

***340. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state what effective measures have been taken to meet the general complaint about the delay in the delivery of telegrams?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): The following steps have been taken to minimise delay in the delivery of telegrams in general:—

(a) More telegraph offices are being opened in the rural areas;

(b) Zonal delivery system has been introduced in urban areas which effect round the clock delivery over wider areas;

(c) Mechanised delivery through phonogram, printergram and telex are being extended;

(d) Special facility to receive telegrams on telephone without any extra charge has been allowed;

(e) The work of delivery of Express Letters has been transferred from telegraph offices to the post offices;

(f) A new incentive scheme, with premium both on the number of telegrams correctly