

TRANSFER OF HEADQUARTERS OF DIVISIONAL OFFICE OF R.M.S. FROM SILCHAR TO GAUHATI

*10. SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the reason for not transferring the headquarters of the Divisional Office of the Railway Mail Service from Silchar to Gauhati, although two Directors General, Posts and Telegraphs, had recommended transfer of this office in the year 1949 and later in 1953?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : The question of shifting the headquarters of the Divisional Office of the Railway Mail Service from Silchar to Gauhati was examined. It was however, dropped on account of the difficulty of securing office and residential accommodation at Gauhati.

SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: May I know whether the Minister is aware of the fact that the whole R. M. S. building at Gauhati is lying vacant over a year due to transfer of the R.M.S. office to the Railway building?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: I have no information about that. The information is that suitable accommodation is not available.

SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: Is it a fact that the mails for all places in Assam including the Cachar district pass through Gauhati and that the mail sorting work is done at Gauhati? If so, may I know whether the presence of the Superintendent, the head of the Division, is necessary at Gauhati?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: So far the work has not suffered on account of the non-establishment of the Sorting Office at Gauhati. But I may assure the hon. Member that the question is being further examined, and if it is found that for the efficient working of the Sorting Section it is necessary to have an office at Gauhati, it will be done.

PILOT INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

*11. SHRI BIREN ROY: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many fully trained and licensed Pilot Instructors (Indian) are in employment in the Flying Clubs and how many are still available for employment;

(b) what facilities are there for Pilot Instructor training;

(c) whether there is any system of grading or categorisation of Pilot Instructors;

(d) how many Flying Clubs possess engineers with 'open' licence and how many with restricted qualifications; and

(e) what arrangements are there with regard to the training of Engineering personnel?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI AHMED MOHIUDDIN): (a) Out of 74 holders of current Pilot Instructor's Licences, 29 are employed in the Flying Clubs. The exact number of Pilot Instructors, who may be free for employment, is not readily available.

(b) Six Senior Pilot Instructors at the different Flying Clubs have been approved by the Director General of Civil Aviation to impart Pilot Instructor's training to candidates.

(c) No, Sir, only one type of Pilot Instructor's Licence is issued under the Indian Aircraft Rules.

(d) 10 Flying Clubs have engineers in possession of 'open' licences in different categories, as well as engineers having restricted licences. The remaining 7 Flying Clubs have engineers holding restricted licences.

(e) Some Flying Clubs recruit apprentices for the purpose of preparing them for A.M.E. Licence Examinations for the issue of A.M.E. Licences. In addition, persons desirous of