

IMPORT OF SPARE PARTS REQUIRED FOR AEROPLANES

*62. SHRI O. SOBHANI : Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of the spare parts required for aeroplanes operating in the country are imported from foreign countries;

(b) if so, what is the value of the spare parts imported during the last two years, and what are the countries from which they are imported; and

(c) whether there are any factories in India which can manufacture the parts referred to above ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) Yes.

(b) About Rs. 2.46 crores and 2.63 crores in 1950-51 and 1951-52 respectively, mostly from U.K. and the U.S.A.

(c) Not at present.

SHRI O. SOBHANI : Will Government explore the possibilities of having some of these parts manufactured in India ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : We are also anxious for that.

SHRI O. SOBHANI : Is Government aware that there is a factory at Hyderabad in which the Government of Hyderabad holds 60 per cent. of the shares and which has machinery suitable for the purpose ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : I am grateful to the Member for the information but that has got to be enquired into.

SERVICE FOR THE GARRIAGE OF GOODS AND PARCELS

*62-A. SHRI S. VENKATARAMAN : Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board stipulate, whenever

they invite tenders for running services for the delivery and collection of goods and parcels, that the contractor shall not operate any service for the carriage of goods and parcels in competition with the Railway Administration ; and

(b) whether a contractor has been selected for Madras city who has been competing with the Railways for the last eleven years; if so, why ?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI LAL BAHADUR) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, but the competition has had no adverse effect on the railway traffic.

CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY LINE FROM CHAMRAJNAGAR TO COIMBATORE

*63 SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a proposal to construct a railway line from Chamrajnagar in Mysore State to Coimbatore;

(b) if so, when the work is expected to be undertaken and completed ?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI LAL BAHADUR) : (a) Yes.

(b) It has been decided by the Central Board of Transport that the project should be taken up during 1954-55 or 1955-56. Government are not in a position to state at present when the line will be completed, as this would depend on the availability of funds from year to year.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : What is the estimate, Sir ?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR : It is about 4.65 crores.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : How much of it has been spent till now ?