

[Mr. Speaker]

"Mr Swell's angiography"

—I think it is a medical term—

"entirely satisfactory and he is likely to leave the hospital within a week stop a further stay for some duration in London would be desirable stop the period of stay will be communicated soon stop".

We are so happy to learn about it.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST REPORT

SHRI K. N. TIWARY (Bettiah) : I beg to present the Hundred and thirty-first Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Finance—Transfer of Budget Provision for certain items of expenditure :

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

TWELFTH REPORT

SHRI BASUMATARI (Kokrajhar) : I beg to present the Twelfth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals (Department of Petroleum)—Reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Gauhati Oil Refinery.

PETITION RE. APPLICABILITY OF THE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT, 1947 TO MEDICAL AND SALES REPRESENTATIVES

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour) : I beg to present a petition

signed by SHRI M. I. K. Muthalaly, Trivandrum, and others, regarding applicability of the Industrial Disputes Act; 1947 to Medical and Sales Representatives.

13.05 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. SITUATION CREATED BY THE AGITA- TION OF INDIAN AIRLINES PILOTS

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : On the 7th December I made a statement in this House on the situation created by some pilots of Indian Airlines represented by the India Commercial Pilots Association. The House will recall that on the 2nd December the Management reached an agreement with the Association in conciliation proceedings before the Chief Labour Commissioner, under which the Association agreed to withdraw its directive prohibiting its members from participating in further training connected with the Boeing Project, and restore normal functioning of the air services with immediate effect. The Management agreed to consider withdrawing the suspension order passed against one of its pilots. The Management and the Association also agreed to recommence bilateral discussions in regard to service conditions, wage structure etc. I am placing a copy of the agreement on the Table of the House.

In view of this agreement, it was hoped that the pilots would resume all their normal functions immediately. The pilots of the Bombay Region, however, continued to refuse to fly the HS-748 aircrafts alleging defects affecting safety. Of the 14 HS-748 aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines six are based in Bombay and the pilots of the Bombay Region initially picked out two as having defects, but refused to fly any of them. The Management was satisfied that these aircraft were, in fact, entirely safe, but in order to place the matter beyond any doubt arrangements were made in consultation with the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited—the manufacturers of the