

Rs. 70.98 crores during 1990-91 in Andhra Pradesh.

Service conditions of employees of Railway Canteens

4239. SHRI M. SELVARASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent Supreme Court Judgement that the employees of the statutory and non-statutory recognised canteens run by the Railways throughout the country are entitled to the same service conditions as those of railway employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether any steps are being taken to implement the same, if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether Government have any proposal to bring the caterers in long distance trains also under this category, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Briefly stated, Supreme Court in their Judgement dated 27.2.90 has declared the employees of 89 statutory Railway canteens and 173 non-statutory recognised Railway canteens as railway servants, eligible for all benefits, from the dates as specified. Steps have already been initiated to implement the Judgement.

(d) and (e). Pantry Car services are managed either departmentally or through licences. In case of departmentally managed Pantry Cars, most of the staff are regular railway employees. However, there

are some commission bearers also who are being absorbed gradually subject to suitability and availability of vacancies. The staff of private licences cannot be brought under the category of railway servants.

New Airports/Airstrips in Maharashtra

4240. DR. VENKATESH KABDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities in Maharashtra where Government are planning new airports/airstrips and expansion schemes;

(b) the reasons for delay in the expansion of Nanded airstrip; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite the expansion work of this airstrip?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The National Airports Authority has no plans to construct any new airport in Maharashtra. However, it has plans to expand Nagpur airport.

(b) and (c). The National Airports Authority has no plans to expand Nanded airstrip which belongs to the Government of Maharashtra.

Jamnagar-Bhuj Flight from Bombay

4241. SHRI BABUBHAI MEGHJI SHAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has changed the schedule for Jamnagar-Bhuj flight from Bombay;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

(c) whether passengers from Gulf, U.K. and Africa to Bhuj via Bombay stay at Bom-

bay due to change in schedule; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to resume the daily flights on this route?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Due to acute shortage of capacity, the schedule of Indian Airlines has been changed.

(c) Air India's flights from Nairobi, ex-U.K. and points in the gulf arrive at Bombay from after midnight to early hours of the morning. Therefore, passengers from these areas have a halt in Bombay ranging from 6 to 14 hours to connect Indian Airlines flights to Bhuj and Jamnagar.

(d) Due to suspension of operations of Airbus A-320 aircraft, capacity has been substantially reduced and Indian Airlines is not in a position to increase frequency of Bombay-Jamnagar-Bhuj-Bombay service.

Availability of accommodation on flight from Bhubneswar to Delhi

4242. SHRI A.N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the number of persons who were refused passage from Bhubaneswar to Delhi and vice-versa due to non-availability of accommodation in aircraft during the last two months?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): No record is maintained by Indian Airlines about the passengers who are refused seats on Indian Airlines flights. On an average, Indian Airlines has a waitlist of about 30 ex-Bhubaneswar and 20 ex-Delhi of which about 50% passengers are accommodated against cancellations and no shows.

MOU Scheme in Public Enterprises

4243. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some more public enterprises have been brought under the Memorandum of Understanding Scheme;

(b) if so, the criteria for selecting public enterprises for the MOU scheme; and

(c) the number of public enterprises proposed to be included in the MOU scheme during 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following criteria were considered for selection of MOU companies:—

(i) The Public Sector Undertakings should represent a major portion of the national economy in terms of Gross Block;

(ii) PSEs selected, should be from some important unrepresented sectors of the economy;

(iii) Some loss-making PSUs are also included.

(c) It is proposed to include about 31 PSUs in the MOU scheme during 1990-91.

Abolition of catering contracts

4244. SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to award catering contracts by adopting the tender system, to the un-employed graduates, ex-servicemen, retired railway employees, Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes people; and