

(b) Does not arise.

**Modern Computer Centre at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras**

5277. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a modern computer centre at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras with German collaboration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how this facility compares with the facilities available in other Indian Institutes of Technology ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c). It is proposed to set up a Modern Computer Centre at IIT Madras with financial assistance from the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) as well as Government of India. The System will have 80 terminals (SIEMENS) with provision to connect another 72 indigenously available terminals or IBM compatible PCs. This provides a large on-line time sharing computing environment for IIT Madras. A good CAD station for engineering work is also included in the proposed configuration. The power of the CPU and the online Disk Storage is comparable to the systems available proposed in other IITs.

**Opposition of Pilots Guild to proposed Extension of Service of Pilots**

5278. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to give extension on contract to retiring pilots in Air India and Indian Airlines has run into difficulties following strong opposition from the Pilots Guild which has expressed its total opposition to the move;

(b) if so, the details regarding the plea advanced by the airlines unions in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of Government along with the guidelines that have been adopted by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Both the Indian Pilots' Guild and Indian Commercial Pilots' Association have objected to contractual employment of retired pilots of Air India and Indian Airlines on the ground that the proposed engagement of Pilots after superannuation will come in the way of career progression of existing Pilots.

(c) With a view to meeting shortage of trained pilots, Government have permitted Air India and Indian Airlines to re-employ retired pilots on contract basis for a period of one year.

**Direct Link of Korba with Kanyakumari**

5279. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he received a Memorandum dated 3 October, 1986 from Joint Action Council, Korba-Trivandrum Direct Railway Facilities, Korba (Madhya Pradesh) during his visit to Korba;

(b) whether the demand of people of Korba area for direct link up by train with Kanyakumari is under consideration of Government;

(c) whether the former Minister of Railways had assured the Council vide letter No. 82/Chg. 1/14/133 dated 6 July, 1983 that the matter was in the priority list of Railways for consideration; and

(d) pending finalisation of direct rail link up between Korba and Kanyakumari, whether Government are conceding the interim demands put forward by the Joint Action Council ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. But the former Minister of Railways had regretted introduction of a