

Nava Siva Satellite Port near Bombay

602. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up Nava Siva Project as a satellite port near Bombay;

(b) if so, the salient features of the project and by when its construction is likely to commence; and

(c) by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT AND TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) to (c). A decision has been taken to commission a Detailed Project Report for setting-up of port facilities at Nhava-Sheva near Bombay. Investment decision will be taken on receipt of the DPR.

Disparities between IFS(A) and IFS(B)

603. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees belonging to Indian Foreign Service (b) in the Ministry of External Affairs have given a memorandum to the Government requesting for removal of disparities between IFS(A) and IFS(B);

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a widespread unrest among the employees belonging to IFS(B) due to most inadequate promotional avenues for them;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of employees belonging to IFS(B) have not got promotion even though they are working in a particular post for the last 25 years; if so, what is the number of such employees category-wise;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the entire Administration in the Ministry of External Affairs is domi-

nated by the officers belonging to IFS(A) and that no officers belonging to IFS(B) are ever allowed to work in Administration;

(e) if answers to above (a), (b), (c) and (d) are in the affirmative, what steps have been taken by Government to provide adequate representation to the employees belonging to IFS(B) to bring them on par with IFS(A)?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. Such a memorandum has been given.

(b) There is a feeling among members of the IFS(B) that promotion avenues open to them are narrower than those in other services. However, this feeling is not entirely correct.

The promotional prospects available to members of the IFS(B) are by and large, similar to the ones obtaining in the Central Secretariat and other services of the Government of India. This whole question is presently under examination.

(c) No, Sir; the number of such employees in IFS(B) is only five. These five officials are in Grade IV of the General Cadre.

(d) No, Sir; deployment of officers in Administration, as well as in other Divisions of the Ministry, is solely based on the exigencies of service.

(e) IFS(B) personnel are being absorbed into the IFS(A) on the basis of a promotion quota ear-marked for the junior Service. The IFS(B) has sought an increase in the quota. The question is under review.

Censoring of News regarding visit of Moshe Dayan of Israel to India

604. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Moshe Dayan from Israel visited India on a secret mission in the year 1977-78;