

commended withdrawal of the facility of rent free accommodation consequent upon the introduction of the new pay scales. However, the question of allowing some benefit to the incumbents who were entitled to rent free accommodation is still under consideration.

Anti-Indian Propaganda by Pakistan and China

2424 SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan and China have geared up their propaganda machinery to tarnish the image of India in different countries of the world;

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to take to meet this malicious propaganda and publicity; and

(c) whether our external publicity and information machinery is too inadequate to project the correct image of India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) Publicity media of these countries have been carrying on anti-Indian propaganda intermittently.

(b) India's policies and actions have been projected in clear terms at the highest level, both in Parliament and through national and international media, to rebut effectively the false allegations and insinuations. Both here and through Indian Missions abroad prompt action is also taken to counter such propaganda from any source, and to publicize our policies and actions.

(c) Does not arise.

Criteria for Paying Agency Charges to States for Development of National Highways

2425. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have been paying Agency charges to the State Governments for the execution of Development works on National Highways; and

(b) if so, what are the criteria of paying the Agency charges to the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI):

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) The agency charges are being paid at the rate of 7 1/2 per cent of the cost of the works.

Bauxite Deposits in Cannanore District of Kerala

2426. SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has conducted any survey to assess the bauxite deposits in the Nileshwar and Kumbala areas of Cannanore District of Kerala;

(b) if so, the findings; of such survey; and

(c) the follow up measures taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a result of survey conducted by the Geological Survey of India, reserves of 6.11 million tonnes of bauxite in Nileshwar area and 1.8 million tonnes in Kumbala area have been estimated.