

maintenance of the facilities, failure of back-up services for proper maintenance and repairs, absenteeism and indiscipline on the part of workers, lack of proper supervision, etc. To avoid recurrence of such failures in future, the Committee has recommended certain measures such as camping of Director level executives at the plant during the entire period of resolution of the crisis, better communication at the shop floor level between workers, supervisors and executives, adherence to prescribed shift hours, adherence to duty timing, implementing standard operating practices, curbing of indiscipline, etc.

(b) The Govt. asked National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) to take immediate action on the recommendations of the Enquiry Committee. NALCO has initiated corrective action for revival of pots as per the recommendations of the Committee. The number of pots in operation has since improved to 335 pots as on 30.11.98 from 239 pots on 22.7.98. The quality of metal produced has also improved and export of metal has been resumed.

(c) The total loss of production due to failure of pots upto 31st October 1998 was 50539 Tonnes *vis-a-vis* the production target resulting into a consequential reduction in profit by Rs. 95.40 crores. The additional expenditure required for restart of the pots is Rs. 14.69 crores and NALCO had adequate funds for the same.

Nigha Aerodrome

798. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nigha Aerodrome in West Bengal has become unsuitable for the use of aviation after Eastern Coalfields Limited was permitted to use the airfield for open cast mining, park and underground mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against Eastern Coalfields Limited for the damage done to Nigha Aerodrome?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The material is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Army Unhappy with Bureaucrats

799. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the Press report appeared in the "Statesman" dated October 24, 1998 captioned, 'Army unhappy with bureaucrats attitude'.

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

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

(b) A public exhibition on arms and equipment captured from the militants in Jammu & Kashmir was organised by the Army in Mumbai. People from different walks of life visited the exhibition. The insinuations made in the news report about Army's unhappiness with bureaucrats are not correct.

(c) Does not arise.

Incidents of Safety Violations by Indian Airlines

800. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines air-bus has violated the safety norms;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent such incidents in near future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Drinking Water Scheme for M.P.

801. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drinking water schemes of Madhya Pradesh are pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof, District-wise;

(c) the time by which these schemes are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the amount proposed to be allotted for the above schemes?