

[Translation]

Army Recruitment Centres in Backward Areas

305. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open new army recruitment centres in the backward areas of the country;

(b) if so, the time by which and the places where these centres are proposed to be opened, State-wise;

(c) whether the backward districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh are proposed to be given priority in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Government is reviewing this issue.

VIP Reservation Quota

306. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the norms prescribed for priority in reservation under the Very Important Person quota;

(b) the number of sleepers earmarked in various classes in the trains originating from Delhi/New Delhi under the VIP quota;

(c) whether the government maintain the record of sleepers reserved on the basis of VIPs recommendation;

(d) if so, whether the concerned person can obtain the above information from the Ministry on his request; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) A limited number of berths/seats have been earmarked in various trains and in different classes as emergency quota to meet the urgent travel requirements of High Official requisition holders, Ministers, MPs/MLAs, VIPs and other emergent demands. It ranges from 2 to 48 berths/seats.

Requests received from various quarters for release of berths/seats out of emergency quota are given due priority taking into account factors like status of the passengers travelling, nature of urgency like Government duty, bereavement, sickness etc.

(c) to (e) Since a large number of requests are received

from various quarters and are dealt with on day to day basis, no such statistics are being maintained.

[English]

New Policy on Civil Aviation

307. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

SHRI K. S. RAO :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to bring out a new policy on civil aviation;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed new policy;

(c) whether the aspects of involvement of the private sector and the foreign investors have also been considered for the development of the airport infrastructure; and

(d) if so, the details is thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft national policy on civil aviation is awaiting the approval of the Government.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In the Policy on Airport Infrastructure which was approved in November, 1997 increased commercial exploitation of airport infrastructure and adjacent land is one of the areas identified for attracting private investment. Both for reasons of bridging the gap in the resources as also to bring in greater efficiency in management of airports, the participation of private parties (including foreign ones) would be encouraged.

[Translation]

New Train Between Kanpur-Jammu Tawi

308. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the member of the Northern Railway Advisory Committee have submitted a memorandum to the General Manager, North-Central Railway for introduction of a new Train from Kanpur Central Railway Station to Jammu-Tawi; and

(b) if so, the response of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.