

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) (a) and (b) The traffic on these sectors is not adequate for operations with the existing Jet aircraft fleet of Indian Airlines. Private operators having smaller aircraft are being encouraged to include new stations such as Pondicherry, Salem and Tuticorin in their network, subject to viability.

Metropolitan Transport Project at Chennai

2296. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Metropolitan Transport Project at Chennai has been sanctioned; and

(b) if so, the date of commencement and the amount spent on it so far?

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) Phase-I of MRTS Project from Chennai Beach to Luz was sanctioned in the year 1983-84. It is commissioned for traffic on 19.10.1997. So far the total amount spent is Rs. 236.56 crore approximately. Phase-II of MRTS Project from Tirumailai (Luz) to Velacheri was sanctioned in the year 1995-96. So far the total amount spent is Rs. 13.30 crore approximately.

Replacement of Lutyen's Bungalows

2297. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI MUKUL WASNIK:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to replace the Lutyen's bungalows in New Delhi area by multistoried buildings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) and (b) A Committee to examine the entire issue of re-development of Lutyens' Bungalow Zone, keeping in view the historical character of the area and optimum utilisation of land resources has been constituted under the chairmanship of Shri M.N. Buch, a retired IAS Officer and 5 other experts. The Committee will furnish its report to the Ministry within two months.

Allotment of Shops

2298. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shopping complex has been constructed in the Vasant Vihar, Central Government Housing Complex, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the shops have not been allotted so far;

(d) if so, the amount of loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to fix the responsibility for the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDHARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 46 shops (26 shops on ground floor and 20 shops on first floor) have been constructed by the Government in the Vasant Vihar, Central Government Housing Complex, New Delhi.

(c) Yes, the shops have not been allotted.

(d) The shops became ready for allotment in May, 1998. Action has been initiated for allotment of these shops on lease and licence basis through open tenders. Hence, there is no loss of Government revenue.

(e) does not arise.

Decision on Pending Petitions

2299. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision on the recent judgement of the High Court of Kerala directing the Union Government to consider and dispose of the grievances filed by a number of petitioners against their discharge from Army, within three months; and

(b) if so, the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Consequent to the High Court of Kerala judgement, a large number of representations have been received. These are under consideration of the Government.