

Correction of Answer to USQ. No. 8182 dated 30-4-1969 Re. Concessions given to Royal Air Force of U. K. in Nicobar Islands

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): I take this opportunity to clarify the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 8182 on 30th April 1969. The question was whether some concessions had been given to the Royal Air Force of U.K. in Nicobar Islands.

The answer given was in the negative. As certain facilities were given to the R.A.F. even though they may not be concessions as such, I wish to state the position in full so as to avoid a misunderstanding.

2. From 1947 to 1956, the R.A.F. were allowed to have a staging post on the air strip at Great Nicobar Islands for the limited task of providing navigational aids and re-fuelling facilities. These facilities were given on a reciprocal basis as we enjoyed facilities at R.A.F. airfields in several places abroad.

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