

DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (d). No official survey has so far been made by the Government on employment preferences of the people with special reference to the Armed Forces. However, when the Armed Forces commenced work for the Fifth Central Pay Commission, they reportedly retained Marketing and Research Group (MARG) for an assessment of the quality of intake and motivation of serving personnel as also the changes in the emolument structure of the market place, to be used for strengthening their proposals to the Fifth Pay Commission. The report of the consultant has supported the hypotheses postulated in the project directive by the Armed Forces that a career in the Armed Forces is seen as "not so attractive".

However, a survey conducted by the Foundation for organisational Research and Education on career choices as reported in Times of India, dated 19 April 1995 reveals that compared to 1983 and 1985, in 1994 the choice for Armed Forces as a career has gone up from position 7 to position 6 while that for IAS and PSUs has gone down from position 1 to position 4 (in respect of IAS) and position to position 5 (in respect of PSUs) during the same period.

A large number of youth continue to appear for selection in the Armed Forces. The Pay and allowances of the Armed Forces personnel are at par with those of the civilian employees of the Central Government of equivalent status. In addition, the Armed Forces personnel are given a number of other perquisites and facilities not admissible to civilian employees.

The pay and allowances and other facilities given to the Armed Forces personnel differ from country to country and depend upon a number of factors. It is therefore, considered that it would not be possible to make a comparison on like to like basis of the facilities admissible to the Indian Armed Forces personnel with those admissible in other countries.

Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) in Delhi

462. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
KUMARI SHUSHILA TIRIYA :

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

(a) whether the Government are facing hardship to procure loans from the financial institutions to begin the construction work of Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) in Delhi ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the Government propose to cover outer ring

road between Mangolpuri to ISBT to cover the density of population in North West Delhi ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI R.K. DHAWAN) : (a) and (b). The possibility of raising loan funds from the Indian Financial Institutions for Delhi MRTS Project was discussed with some of the major Financial Institutions of India in a meeting held on 17.10.95. The conclusions reached at this meeting were that long term finance of the magnitude required at the concessional terms, which were sought may not be available. It was also stated that even if long term finance of this magnitude could be mobilized within the country, the rate of interest would be not less than 18% per annum. This would be much above the paying capacity of the project.

(c) and (d). The proposed first phase of the MRTS project covers three corridors namely, Shahdara - Nangloi, Subzi Mandi - Holambi Kalan and Central Secretariat - Vishwavidyalaya. On Shahdara - Nangloi corridor, Multan Nagar and Mangol Puri stations are located close to and on either side of Outer Ring Road. Similarly, ISBT, Civil Lines, Old Secretariat and Vishwavidyalaya stations on Central Secretariat - Vishwavidyalaya corridor and Udyog Nagar and Transport Nagar stations on Subzi Mandi - Holambi Kalan corridor are located close to the Outer Ring Road. In general, any locality on outer ring road in North West Delhi is quite close to the above named stations. Feeder bus system has been planned in such a way that no person has to walk more than 500 metres to reach the nearest MRTS station or bus stop.

[Translation]

Speeches on Biotechnology

463. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether grant is allotted for purpose of arranging popular series of speeches on biotechnology by the Department of Biotechnology ;

(b) if so, the institution-wise details of allocation made in Rajasthan M.P. and U.P. during the last three years ;

(c) whether any study has been made to assess the utility of the scheme ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPART-