

Another reason is competition from China.

(c) It is not possible to make an estimate.

Indian Soldiers in Ghaza Strip

*2040. { Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Liladhar Kotoki:
Shri Wodeyar:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Indian soldiers were injured in the Ghaza strip (United Arab Republic) recently;

(b) if so, the details of the incident; and

(c) whether any protest has been made to the United Nations and Israel?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) and (b). It is understood that 4 Indian soldiers were injured on the 3rd April 1959 when some local Arabs forcibly tried to prevent a party of Indian soldiers from escorting an Arab woman apprehended in Israel territory to the local police station.

(c) No, Sir. This issue will be considered when a full report, which is expected shortly, is available.

Extension of Contributory Health Scheme to Defence Installations

*2041. Shri Keshava:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been repeatedly made to the Government for the extension of the Contributory Health Scheme to the workers of the Defence Installations in Delhi area; and

(b) if so, the reactions of the Government thereto?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Baghrumalah): (a) If the reference is to the Contributory Health Services Scheme the answer is in the affirmative.

(b) At present about 9200 employees who are working in Delhi Cantt. and Shakurbasti are outside the purview of the Contributory Health Services Scheme. It has now been decided that about 5,500 employees, who are living in New Delhi and the limits of defunct Delhi Municipal Committee for whom adequate arrangements can be made, should be brought within the scheme. It is expected that the arrangements in this respect will be completed within a few months.

L.A.F. Canberra

*2042. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sq. Ldr. Sen Gupta, pilot of the Indian Canberra which the Pakistani Air Force planes shot down on the 10th April, 1959 made or signed any statement saying that "he purposely violated Pakistani territory to photograph certain military targets" as claimed by the Foreign Ministry of Pakistan;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to ascertain whether the statement purported to have been made is genuine and that it was not made under duress; and

(c) the result thereof; if any?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) to (c). The attention of the hon'ble Member is invited to the statement on this subject made by me in the Lok Sabha on 21-4-1959.

Wealth-Tax

*2043. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Un-