

would not be realised if the ward of Government employees does not reside with him. Wards residing with Government employees in the allotted Government quarters are not entitled to draw H.R.A. With this end in view, the condition of non-drawal of H.R.A. for a minimum period of 3 years has been prescribed.

(c) No such steps are envisaged.

(d) and (e) Request of this nature are dealt with as per the rules in force. In view of this specific record relating to such papers are not maintained separately.

(f) No simplification is considered necessary.

(g) Does not arise.

Aviation projects contract with MIG-MAPO of Russia

424. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contract regarding two defence aviation projects one for upgradation of India's MIG-21s and the other for establishment of a joint venture/company between MIG-MAPO of Russia and HAL of India to produce spare parts and to service MIG aircraft in India, have since been finalised :

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating *inter-alia* the advantages that will accrue to India by the two aviation projects and their financial involvements ; and

(c) the time by which the contract is likely to be signed and the projects likely to take off ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES) (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI) : (a) and (c). A letter of intent concerning the project for upgradation of MIG-21 BIS aircraft has been issued to the Russian side. A joint venture company with shareholding, *inter alia*, of MAPO-MIG of Russia and Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), named Indo-Russia Aviation Private Limited (IRAL), was incorporated on 12 September 1994.

(b) The authorised capital of IRAL is Rs. 40 crores and the shareholding is 48:5:47 between Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) and Russian organisations respectively. The scope of activities of the joint venture covers warehousing of aviation stores and related activities. This would supplement our other efforts for securing spares and product support. Upgradation of MIG-21 BIS aircraft will considerably enhance their operational capabilities.

Missing vestibule plate in Himgiri Express

425. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the accident news appeared in the 'Aajkal' dated October 25, 1995 about the missing vestibule plate between the bogies of the Himgiri Express resulting in the death of one lady passenger between Begampur and Baruipara Stations ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Yes, Sir. A lady passenger having reservation in Coach No. S-7 of 2373 Up Himgiri Express is reported to have fallen down from the train between Begampur and Baruipara station and died on 21-10-95. The case has been sent for investigation by Government Railway Police, Kuna Kunda / West Bengal.

(b) The vestibule of coach No. S-7 was in working order. Howrah end Vestibule of Coach No. S-8 was blocked and was found forcibly opened at one end. The case is under investigation by GRP Kuna Kunda West Bengal. Ministry of Railways have however re-iterated the instructions to all the Railways to check the vestibule fittings on all the coaches and to ensure that these are in working order and safe for use by the travelling passenger.

Harmful Lice Lotions

426. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the lotions available in the market used against lice in the head contain harmful pesticides like malathion, parmathrin, carbaryl and lindane ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to launch a concerted campaign to create more awareness about the health hazards accruing from the use and abuse of lice lotions?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. R. ANTULAY) : (a) to (c). The lotions used in the treatment of lice have not been reported to be harmful when used in the prescribed concentration upto 1%. Formulation of these drugs are being marketed in developed countries also. Precautions required to be taken by users are invariably printed on the back for guidance of consumers.