

is made to the power projects in the States on recommendation of the Ministry of Power limited to the power capacity allocated to the respective States. States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have recommended projects far in excess of allocated capacities. Ministry of Power has been requested to reprioritise and rationalise the recommendations so as to keep the allocations within the sanctioned capacity.

Indo-Canadian Joint Commission

6097. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Indo-Canadian Joint Commission is proposed to be set up to establish better economic co-operation between both the countries;
- (b) if so, the areas of co-operation identified so far; and
- (c) the steps taken in the above matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) During the recent visit of Canadian Foreign Minister, Lloyd Axworthy to India it was decided to establish a Joint Ministerial Committee headed by the External Affairs Ministers of the two countries. The committee will work towards intensifying co-operation in the economic as well as commercial and political fields. There is, at present, no proposal to set-up a separate Indo-Canadian Joint Economic Commission.

(b) Identification of the exact areas for co-operation will form part of agenda of the first meeting of the Committee the dates for which are yet to be finalised.

(c) The two Governments are in touch with each other to finalise details of the first meeting of the Joint Ministerial Committee.

Introduction of Ring Railway in Bangalore

6098. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware that there is a long pending demand from the State of Karnataka for introduction of Ring Railway in Bangalore; and
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka have proposed introduction of Light Rail Transit System, in Bangalore. The State Government have requested Government of India for equity participation to the tune of Rs. 500 crores for this Project. However, the Government of Karnataka is still in the process of preparation of Detailed Project Report and Economic and Financial Analysis for the Project. The State Government has been requested to expedite the comple-

tion of these Reports to enable the Government of India to take appropriate action with regard to the participation in the equity of the above Project.

Indo-Oman Agreement

6099. DR. M.P. JAISWAL :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Sultan Kaboos-bin-said of Oman visited India recently;
- (b) the details of the agreement signed between the two countries during the visit;
- (c) whether any agreement was also signed on Investment/protection and avoidance of direct taxation; and
- (d) if so, the details and main purpose of this agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The following agreements were signed between the two countries during the visit.

(i) Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement.

(ii) Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.

(iii) Memorandum of Agreement for Scientific and Technical Co-operation between the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of Oman and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(iv) The Executive programme of the Cultural and Educational Agreement between India and Oman for 1997 and 1998.

(v) Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Civil Aviation matters.

(vi) Joint Venture Agreement on the Oman-India fertiliser project.

(d) The broad intent of the Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement is to promote and protect investment from either country in the other. Each country is required to encourage and create favourable conditions for investors and the admission of investment shall be subject to the laws and policies of the country where the investment is made. In addition, each country is required to accord treatment to investments from the other country which is fair and equitable. Further the agreement provides that nationalisation and expropriation of the investment shall

not be resorted to, except in the public interest in accordance with law on a non discriminatory basis and against compensation.

The Agreement for the Avoidance of Double taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to taxes on income is expected to pave the way for increase in mutual trade, flow of investments and transfer of technology between India and Oman. The agreement provides for mutually agreed procedure for resolving tax problem encountered by tax payers in the respective countries. It also provides for exchange of information between the two governments for preventing tax evasion.

M.R.T.S. in Delhi

6100. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether obstacle relating to acquisition of land for MRTS Project in Delhi has cropped up; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the institutions/persons objecting to it and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The Government of NCT of Delhi have informed that the land acquisition process for the Modified Phase-I of Delhi MRTS Project has been initiated. However, in respect of the Shahadara-Nangloi Rail Corridor, residents of Kirari Suleman and Mundka Villages have represented to the Government of NCT of Delhi to consider alternative location for construction of Nangloi MRTS Depot. For this purpose, M/s. RITES have been asked to examine the possibility of relocating or redesigning the Nangloi Depot so as to dislocate minimum number of residents of that area.

[Translation]

Anti-India Propaganda in Government Schools of Kashmir

6101. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Anti-India Propaganda has been launched in Government schools of Punch and other schools of the Kashmir Valley and generally these Madarasas and Government schools are under the influence of a pro-Pakistani fanatic organisation, the Jamaite-Islami;

(b) if so, the places where such propaganda is being made and the names of the organisation engaged in this work and the names who are providing financial assistance to them and their total number; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to check the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The Government are aware of some reports of schools run under the patronage of certain secessionist/militant organisations such as Jama at-Islami, etc. with the aim of indoctrination of the youth in the State. The State Government has been regularly sensitized in the matter and sustained pressure is being maintained on such organisations to contain their anti-national activities. Efforts are also being made to reactivate and improve the functioning of the regular educational institutions, which would also inter-alia wean away children from the influence of such organisations.

[English]

Establishment of V.T.I.

6102. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH :

SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given any assurance to Gujarat Government for establishment of Regional Vocational Training Institute at Vadodara;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions prescribed by the Union Government therefor ;

(c) whether these terms and conditions have been complied with by the Gujarat Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be established ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) The establishment of RVTI for Women at Vadodara was agreed to in 1991, on the clear understanding that the Government of Gujarat would make available a suitable plot of land measuring about 5 acres free of cost, for construction of a permanent building for the Institute and also to provide adequate temporary accommodation immediately for starting training activities. In April, 93, the State Government of Gujarat made available a plot of land with an existing old super-structure as also a new building already under construction on it. While the land was offered free, the State Government desired the cost of building under construction to be reimbursed to them. This could not be accepted as the building under construction did not meet the standards and requirements of the World Bank with whose assistance the Scheme is being implemented. The Institute, is however, functioning with the limited infrastructure since May, 1995.

IFCI

6103. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Employees Welfare Association regarding not follow-