

been formed at Delhi at the initiative of the Ministry of Defence. 60 stations have been selected all over the country for the first phase of an extensive housing Scheme. Land has already been purchased for the Sainik Housing Colony at Dehra Dun and Goa. Negotiations are in progress for procurement of land at Ludhiana and Jullunder in Punjab and Ghaziabad in U.P.

(b) Yes, Sir. State Governments have been requested to reserve 15 per cent of the plots in their proposed Housing Colonies for allotment to service and ex-service personnel and many of them have agreed to do so.

A Colony for members of the defence forces at Chandigarh has been sponsored by the Chief Commissioner.

Rehabilitation of Persons of Indian Origin deported from Kenya

45. Shri C. C. Desai:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri E. Barua:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the persons of Indian Origin deported from Kenya have since been rehabilitated; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Eight persons of Indian origin were deported from Kenya last year. Of these, only four were deported to India. Two of these four deportees left for the U.K. almost immediately after their arrival. We have had no request from the remaining two for any assistance in regard to rehabilitation.

(b) Does not arise.

India's relations with Neighbouring Countries

46. Shri Shri Chand Goel: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state the steps, if any, taken by Government to bring about cordial

and harmonious relations with Nepal, Bhutan, Burma, Ceylon and other neighbouring countries?

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri M. C. Chagla): Several steps have been taken particularly in the fields of economic and cultural co-operation and high level visits to promote further the close relations that already exist with our neighbouring countries with the unfortunate exceptions of Pakistan and China. In the President's address also, it has been stated "it will be the Government's special endeavour to strengthen India's relations with our Asian neighbours."

I.A.F. Aircraft Accident

47. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Air Force trainer aircraft crash landed and burst into flames in a field near Bhandaj village, about ten miles from Agra, shortly after it had taken off from the Kheria airport on the 8th March, 1967; and

(b) if so, the causes of the accident?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) An IAF aircraft accident occurred at 0820 hours on 8th March, 1967 at a place 8 miles South of Agra. The aircraft was damaged beyond economical repairs.

(b) A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to investigate the accident and after it is completed, the desired information will be furnished to the hon. Member.

Film Studio in Orissa

48. Shri Chintamanj Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open a film studio in Orissa during the Fourth Plan period;

(b) whether any proposal has also been received from the Orissa State Government to this effect; and

(c) the financial assistance which the Central Government propose to give for the same?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) The Central Government have no plans to open a Film Studio in Orissa

(b) No, sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Naval Training Institute at Paradeep Port

49. Shri Chintamani Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to start a Naval Training Institute at Paradeep Port in Orissa;

(b) if so, when it is to be started;

(c) the amount of money estimated to be spent thereon; and

(d) whether work has started on the project?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) A proposal is under consideration for shifting an existing naval training establishment to Paradeep.

(b) to (d). Do not arise

Announcements from A.I.R., Madras

50. Shri S. K. Sambandhan: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation from the people of the Madras State has been received requesting Government to direct the All India Radio to announce "VANOLI" in place of "AKASHVANI"; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) and (b). There is a demand by a section of the people in Madras State for changing the name 'Akashvani'

into the Tamil word 'Vanoli'. The term 'Akashvani' is the standard Indian language equivalent to the term All India Radio and is used in all Indian language broadcasts. This was formerly the call sign in Kannada of the former Mysore radio. Government have no objection to the use of any other word to connote 'radio' which may be current in the regional language for regional or local purposes and instructions already exist in this regard. Accordingly, the word 'Vanoli' is being used by the Tiruchi and Madras stations of All India Radio wherever appropriate in their announcements.

Payment of Pensions to Defence Personnel in Sterling

51. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Defence personnel at present who are receiving pensions in sterling;

(b) the total amount involved in these pensions during 1965-66;

(c) whether Government have agreed to make payment for these pensions in the new rate of exchange after devaluation; and

(d) if so, the additional cost of payment per year consequent to this decision?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) 341.

(b) Rs. 10 65 lakhs, approximately

(c) Government have decided that, in the case of the Defence Services officers and personnel who were entitled to pension in Pounds sterling and in whose cases pension was actually sanctioned in pounds sterling prior to the orders issued on 30th April, 1957, the pensions will be paid by converting the authorised amount of pension expressed in sterling at the new rate of exchange after devaluation.