

Shifting of Vehicles Research and Development Establishment, Ahmednagar to Avadi (Madras)

54. Shri Anantrao V. Patil: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Defence Department has taken a decision to shift Vehicles Research and Development Establishment from Ahmednagar to Avadi (Madras):

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether a large number of employees will be displaced due to the shifting?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Heavy Vehicles Factory has been built at Avadi for the manufacture of fighting vehicles. In 1960 when a decision on the location of the Heavy Vehicles Factory at Avadi was being taken, it was also decided that the R&D portion of the then Technical Development Establishment (Vehicles) should be located at Avadi to facilitate design and development work connected with fighting vehicles. The priority tasks on this given by the Services can only be completed quickly by very close and constant collaboration with the Heavy Vehicles Factory.

(c) The total strength of officers and staff is about 700, including 300 Class IV and industrial category of employees. Every effort will be made to absorb as many of the Class IV and industrial staff in nearby Defence installations in Maharashtra, if they are not willing to move to Avadi. The rest of the staff (about 400) who belong to Class I, II & III are liable for services anywhere in India. Even here the staff will not be moved all at once but in suitable phases. About 250 members of the staff will be moved in two phases by the end of this year. The balance will be moved later.

Assistance from UNESCO for Mass Communication

55. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assistance has been received from UNESCO for mass communication recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how it is proposed to be utilised?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Shri K. K. Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). During 1965-66, the UNESCO assigned a Consultant in Mass Communication to the Indian Institute of Mass Communication with effect from June 1966 for a period of one year. In addition, they have agreed to give the Institute equipment worth Rs 15,000 during this period. A part of this equipment has already arrived and the rest is expected in due course. The equipment which the Institute has already received consists mostly of audio-visual and photographic equipment, viz. Projectors, Public Address System, Silk Screen Equipment, Cameras etc. The equipment is being utilized as aid in imparting training in practical skills required in the field of Mass Communication.

For 1967-68, the UNESCO has agreed to assign to the Institute an expert in Mass Communication and also to give equipment worth \$20,000.

Family Accommodation for J.C.Os. and O.Rs.

56. Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavaia: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cent percent of the Officers and J.C.Os. in the Army are entitled to keep their families with them when posted in peace areas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Other Ranks are entitled to keep their families in peace areas;

(c) if so, the percentage fixed in this regard for Other Ranks serving in the different Branches of Army; and

(d) if the reply to part (b) be in the negative, the reasons for not giving this concession of family accommodation to the Other Ranks posted in the peace areas?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Swaran Singh): (a) Yes. The term 'family' for this purpose is defined in the relevant regulations.

(b) and (c). Yes. Married accommodation is authorised at the following percentages of the sanctioned establishments:

(1) Quartermaster and Troops Daffadars of animal Transport Units.	}	100%
(2) Artificers (Asstt. Foremen and Charge hands only)		
(3) Havildars of Postal Service and those of ASC Supply (including clerk GD/GD (SD))		
(4) Havildars of AOC, EME and Dafadar/Clerks of RVFC	}	100%
(5) Religious Teachers		
(6) NCO Instructors, AEC and APTC Havildars and Combatant Clerks of Recruiting Organisation	}	60%
(7) All non-combatants (enrolled) and those non-combatants (un-enrolled) who are borne on authorised establishment and are required to live near their place of work		
(8) Artificers other than those mentioned at (2) above		60%
(9) NCOs and ORs of HQ Bombay Engineer Group		50%
(10) ORs of Postal service, AOC, EME, OR Clerks of RVFC and those of ASC Supply (including clerks GD/GD(SD), but excluding MT Drivers	}	33 1/3%
(11) NCOs and ORs of HQ Madras Engineer Group (including units, re-inforcements and recruits)		
(12) NCOs and ORs of Gorkha Units, other than Training Centres	}	27%
(13) NCOs and ORs of units at Bombay Engineer Group (excluding reinforcement and recruits)		
(14) NCOs and ORs of President's Body Guard		15%
(15) NCOs and ORs of all army units NOT catered for above i.e., Infantry, Cavalry, Arty, Armoured Corps, Engineers, Signals, Gorkha Training Units, DSC, AMC, CMP, RVFC, Intelligence Corps, Pioneer Corps, ASC other than those mentioned at (1), (3), (10) above and reinforcements and recruits of Bombay Engineer Group.	}	14%

(d) Does not arise.

Building of Indian Consul General in Shanghai

57. Shri Shri Chand Goel: Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) when and at what cost the building of the Indian Consul-General in Shanghai (China) was purchased;

(b) whether the price was paid in full;

(c) the terms of the contract and the name of the authority on behalf of India and also on behalf of China, who concluded the contract;

(d) whether China has demanded the return of the building and, if so, the date and nature of the communication;

(e) whether the demand constitutes violation of the contract; and