

only with the willing cooperation of the two state Governments and that towards this end the Central Government would be glad to extend all possible assistance to them. The Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka have met thrice and discussed the problem. The outcome of their efforts is awaited.

(b) It is difficult to lay down any time-limit in this regard.

**Centre's Approval to R. & D Centre of Union Carbide, Bhopal**

1242 SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the R & D Centre of the Union Carbide at Bhopal had received approval of his department ;

(b) if so, whether the Centre had provided annual report about the type of research projects it was undertaking ; and

(c) whether any projects with possible application in biological warfare were being conducted therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) While the approval of Government is not required to establish a research centre, under a scheme of providing encouragement to industry to engage in the industrial research, the Union Carbide Research Centre at Bhopal has been recognised in 1974.

(b) The Centre provides periodical returns on the facilities, staff and activities at the time of renewal of recognition

(c) Under the Recognition Scheme, it is not mandatory for in-house R & D units to disclose all the programmes,

which they have undertaken in the past or they are planning to undertake in future. Their facilities do not seem to have possible application in biological warfare.

**Highlighting of small accidents in India Airlines by the Press**

1243. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether press has been highlighting even small accidents in Indian Airlines operations and thereby eroding public confidence ;

(b) if so, the number of accidents that occurred during the last two years and number thereof attributed to negligence in supervision and the number out of them which were serious ;

(c) whether the safety measures and supervision correspond to international norms ; and

(d) if not, whether Government would make sure that supervision and checks are really effective so as to make flying safe for passengers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Reports in the press have been appearing on accidents and incidents to aircraft of Indian Airlines.

(b) In the preceding two years seven notifiable accidents occurred. The investigation into six of these has been completed and none of them has been attributed to negligence in supervision. One out of these accidents was of a somewhat serious nature.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.